Middlesex East
Looking back at the Market Basket strike B1

Sports
WHS golfers solid in league shootout, second among Freedom Division B5W

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70TH YEAR NO. 40 PHONE 978-658-2346 OCTOBER 3, 2024 www.HomeNewsHere.com 16 PAGES

School safety presentation given to committee

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — Superintendent Dr. Glenn Brand invited representatives from the fire and police departments to a School Committee presentation on district safety and security on Wednesday, Sept. 25. He started by saying that it seemed appropriate to discuss this topic given the community outreach and concern after the recent tragedy in Georgia. He said that Wilmington is lucky to have a great relationship with the police and fire departments.

He then explained that planning for safety and security in a school system is continuous. In that regard, there are Building and District Safety Committees that meet regularly throughout the year. The DSC includes one team member from each school along with members of the fire and police departments, Director of Administration and Finance Paul Ruggiero, and IT Director Ken Lord.

They also provide ongoing staff and student training on protocols, fire drills and bus evacuation practices, and the ALICE program.

Brand also stated that the district has worked hard to ensure that doors have functioning locks. He explained that exterior and interior doors can be locked. However, adjoining doors do not have locking mechanisms to comply with state fire code and building code.

Their goals for this year were to create a reunification plan in the event of an evacuation of a building following the "I Love You Guys" program, complete a tabletop exercise to simulate an emergency situation and response, and conduct a security audit of the district.

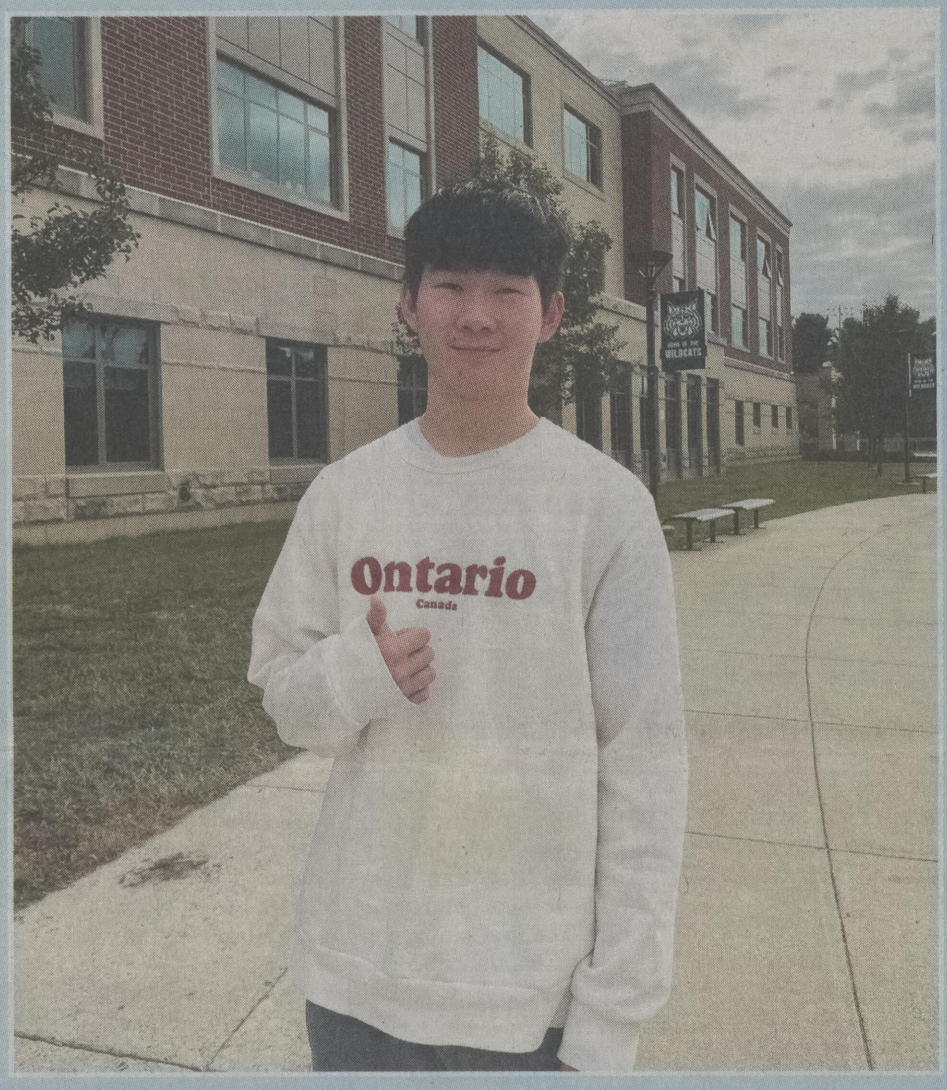
Dr. Mike Mercaldi asked about the "I Love You Guys" program.

Ken Lord described that it involves a designed and organized reunification process involving dealing with the crowd, orderly entry of patients, organizing the arrival of buses, and a preassembled materials kit.

Mercaldi also asked about what the town and district are doing to prevent school shootings. Police Chief Joe Desmond mentioned the idea that school shooters aren't on anyone's radar until after the event is a myth. Typically there are signs, he continued. They train school resource officers to look for clues. He inclu-

SAFETY | PAGE A7W

▲ Derek Sun and Dean Ciampa were recognized as Commended Students in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program. (Courtesy photo)



▲ Terry Ding was recognized as a Semifinalist in the 70th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. (Courtesy photo)

Three seniors recognized by National Merit Scholarship Corporation

WILMINGTON — Wilmington High School is proud to announce that the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NSMC) has recognized three WHS seniors for their exceptional academic promise, based on their performance on the Fall 2023 PSAT/NMSQT.

Congratulations to Terry Ding, who was recognized as a Semifinalist in the 70th annual National Merit Scholarship Program! 16,000 high scorers, representing less than one percent of the nation's high school graduating seniors, will now have the opportunity to compete for some 6,870 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly $26 million that will be offered next spring.

To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of competition.

Congratulations to Dean Ciampa and Derek Sun, who were recognized as Commended Students in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program! About 34,000 Commended

SCHOLARS | PAGE A2W

School Committee receives update on goals, MSBA

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — On Wednesday, Sept. 25, the School Committee received updates from Superintendent Dr. Glenn Brand regarding proposed superintendent goals and the MSBA project.

The committee approved two upcoming DECA field trips for next year to Boston and Orlando, Florida.

Brand presented his proposed 2024-2025 superintendent goals. He explained that these goals were determined out of the committee's feedback from last year's evaluation. He shared his goals to participate in the 'Small District Superintendent Track' academy program offered by the National School Public Relations Association, oversee specific efforts to enhance the district's school safety planning and preparedness, and lead the elementary school building project through its next phase.

Chair Jesse Fennelly commented that these proposed goals weren't tied to any academics, such as with the middle and high school program reviews or leadership walkthroughs.

Brand mentioned that focus, attention, and support would still be kept on

SCHOOL | PAGE A7W

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School Committee provides transportation update

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — The School Committee received an update on school bus transportation for this school year from Transportation Director Lisa Faretra at their Sept. 25 meeting. Superintendent Dr. Glenn Brand opened by reminding the committee that Faretra had immense challenges to navigate last year, and this year they were off to a great start so far.

Faretra stated that realistically the start of the school year can't be perfect in any district. They could strive toward perfect, but there would always be minor delays and issues needing adjustment. Routes experienced some delays at the start of the year for out of district transportation which has since smoothed out.

Wilmington transports 43 students either out of the district or into the district through NRT. This is done using a rideshare with surrounding communities.

As part of registration for the bus, Faretra explained that parents agreed to rider expectations in terms of how bus stops are determined, responsibilities of students at the bus

BUS | PAGE A7W

Prospective Purchaser Agreement finalized for redeveloper of the Olin Eames Street property

BOSTON — EPA New England (EPA) announced a final Prospective Purchaser Agreement (PPA) for the Olin property — the approximately 50-acre parcel at 51 Eames St. in Wilmington — where chemical manufacturing and waste disposal activities were formerly conducted. These industrial activities resulted in extensive environmental contamination that led to the Olin Chemical Superfund Site's designation as a federal Superfund site in 2006.

A prospective purchaser agreement is the primary settlement tool used by EPA to address the liability concerns of a prospective purchaser or other third party who wants to redevelop a site. EPA's PPA is with the real estate developer Wilmington Woburn Industrial, LLC (WWI), previously Wilmington Woburn Intermodal, LLC, an affiliate of GFI Partners, LLC.

WWI's proposed redevelopment of the Olin property includes the construction of a 195,400 square foot warehouse facility at the main entrance to the Olin property along Eames Street.

"EPA continues to move forward with necessary cleanup measures and advancing ongoing groundwater investigations at this site," said EPA New England administrator David W. Cash. "At the same time, EPA will ensure that the

OLIN | PAGE A8W

INDEX Lifestyle... B8 | Middlesex East... B1 | Obituaries... A5 | Opinion... A4, A5 | Police Logs... B4 | Sports... B5W

Wilmington Library News:

Tiny Art Show reception set for Wednesday, Oct. 9

▲ Stop by the library on Wednesday, Oct. 9 at 6 p.m. for our Tiny Art Show Reception! Enjoy tiny treats and refreshments while viewing the teeny tiny artwork created by our patrons of all ages! (Courtesy photo)

Adult Programs

Afternoon Cemetery Stroll

Monday, Oct. 7, 3:30 p.m.

Join Town Museum Curator Matthew Beres for a history walk and talk through Wildwood Cemetery.

Needleworkers at Night

Monday, Oct. 7, 6 p.m.

These nighttime sessions are perfect for anyone who does any kind of needle craft but can't make it to Needleworkers during the day! Drop-in. This group now meets in the cozy seating area on the first floor of the library.

Cookin' the Books

Tuesday, Oct. 8, 12 p.m.

If you love to cook and enjoy talking about food and sharing recipes then this group is for you. Pick up a copy of the cookbook (or find a recipe from the book online), register on the library events calendar and record your recipe. Bring your dish to the meeting and enjoy sampling everyone's dishes! This month's featured cookbook is Shabbat by Adeena Sussman.

Drop-in Tech Help

Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 12, 2 p.m.

Have a tech question that's been bugging you? Stop by Drop-in Tech Help.

Introduction to Italian

Thursday, Oct. 10, 6:30 p.m.

Curious about the Italian language? Dreaming of traveling to Italy? Join Maria Felicita Fichera, Italian Instructor at Merrimack College, for a bite-size intro to the language and helpful phrases to get by on your travels.

Needleworkers

Friday, Oct. 11, 10 a.m.

This is a social group for those who do any kind of needle craft. Bring your knitting, crocheting, quilting, etc. and enjoy conversation and camaraderie. Drop in.

20s/30s
Ice Cream Social

Friday, Oct. 11, 6 p.m.

We are teaming up for an After Hours Spooktacular at the Tewksbury Public Library! This festive evening will include an ice scream sundae bar, themed mocktails, a make your own potion craft, glow-in-the-dark mini golf, temporary tattoos and themed accessories, ouija and tarot cards, snacks, and spooky movie trivia! Costumes are encouraged but not required. This event is for those in their 20s & 30s and is funded by the Friends of the Tewksbury Public Library, Massachusetts Cultural Council, and Wilmington Memorial Library.

Youth Programs

Wilmington Community Playgroup

Monday, Oct. 7, 10 a.m.

The Community Teamwork Family Resource Network is here weekly! Join CTI for a community playgroup where we'll work on Early Literacy skills and much, much more! Ask CTI about any resources they can help provide for you and your family. The first playgroup of every month will focus on infants and toddlers. Ages 0-6, siblings welcome

Kids' Book Café

Monday, Oct. 7, 6 p.m.

A book tasting for students in Grades 3-5. Sample a variety of books, both fiction and nonfiction, revolving around the same genre or theme. Each session will include either a themed snack or activity! Grades 3-5

Preschool Storytime

Tuesday, Oct. 8, 10 a.m.

Join us at our Preschool Storytime! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Ages 3-6

Ghost Painting

Tuesday, Oct. 8, 6 p.m.

Pretend that you're Vincent Van Ghost and add some ghouls and spirits into famous paintings! We'll be making well known paintings into spooky versions for Halloween. Grades 6-12

Time for Twos

Wednesday, Oct. 9, 10 a.m.

Join us at our Time for Twos! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Age 2

Tiny Art Show Reception

Wednesday, Oct. 9, 6 p.m.

Enjoy tiny treats and refreshments while viewing the teeny tiny artwork created by patrons of all ages on display at the library! All ages

Baby Time

Thursday, Oct. 10, 10 a.m.

Join us at our Baby Time! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Ages 0-23 months

Crafternoon

Thursday, Oct. 10, 3:45 p.m.

Come make a fun craft with us! Let's decorate pumpkins with pressed flowers to make gothic decor for Halloween! Grades 4-8

Music with Dara

Friday, Oct. 11, 10:30 a.m.

With keyboard, felt board, finger puppets, and engaging visual props, Dara weaves songs (old and new favorites), fingerplays, rhythmic activities/simple instrument playing, and creative movement for a fun-filled musical 30-45 minute program. Lots of clapping, marching, singing, creative expression and FUN! Ages 2-5, siblings welcome

Costume Craze!

Saturday, Oct. 12, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

If you donated a costume for this year's Costume Craze, stop by the library between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. and pick up a new-to-you costume! Kids & Teens

Additional Information

Book Store Next Door

The Book Store Next Door is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Shop discount books! Paperbacks for $1 and hardcovers for $2. The Book Store is staffed by volunteers from the Friends of the Library and all proceeds help support library programs.

Museum Passes

The library has discounted passes to your favorite Massachusetts museums, attractions, and state parks. Find the full list on our website!

WML In-Person Programming

Registration is required for most in-person programs. Please check our website on the day of the program to confirm location. Masks are no longer required for vaccinated patrons while visiting the library.

WML Virtual Programming

The library continues to offer a variety of virtual events. Please note that registration is required in order to receive the Zoom link. Go to *wilmlibrary.org* to register or call 978-658-2967.

Advertisement

It's Your Money
by Todd Brisbois

Tax benefits to help offset the cost of making businesses accessible to people with disabilities:

— PART II —

Work Opportunity Tax Credit

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit is available to employers for hiring individuals who have consistently faced significant barriers to employment. This includes people with disabilities and veterans.

The maximum amount of tax credit for employees who worked 400 or more hours of service is:

- $2,400 or 40% of up to $6,000 of first year wages for qualifying individuals.
- $9,600 or 40% of up to $24,000 of first year wages for certain qualified veterans.
- A 25% rate applies to wages for individuals who work at least 120 hours but less than 400 hours for the employer.

To claim the credit, an employer must first get certification that an individual is eligible. Employers do this by submitting IRS Form 8850, Pre-screening Notice and Certification Request for the Work Opportunity Credit, to their state workforce agency within 28 days after the eligible worker begins work. Employers should not submit this form to the IRS. They should contact their state workforce agency with questions about Form 8850.

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14th annual Italian Heritage Golf Classic

WILMINGTON — The Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli Lodge #2183, Sons and Daughters of Italy of Wilmington and the Italian Heritage Month Committee are proud to announce the 14th annual Italian Heritage Golf Classic in celebration of October as Italian Heritage Month on Friday, Oct. 11, 2024 at the Hillview Golf Course in North Reading.

The committee invites you to participate in a great day of golf, food, and fun. As in the past, 100 percent of the proceeds from the golf classic will benefit the Alzheimer's Association, Cooley's Anemia Foundation, and the Italian Heritage Scholarship Fund. Over the last 13 years, the tournament has raised more than $60,000!

The entry fee per golfer is $150, which includes greens fee, golf cart, a player gift, driving range, continental breakfast, hotdog, chips and soda at the turn and a luncheon buffet. Golfers may register individually or in teams of four; individual golfers will be placed on a team.

Prizes will be given to the first, second and third place teams. There will be contests on the course, 50/50 raffles and a raffle table at the luncheon. Tickets are available for the luncheon only, at $35 per person.

The tournament is a shotgun start and a scramble format. On the day of the tournament, registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and tee time is at 9:00 a.m. If you are not a golfer and would like to support our charitable golf tournament, sponsorships are available. You may sponsor a hole for $100 or a golf cart for $50 or provide a gift certificate that will enhance our raffle table.

For further information on participating in the tournament, sponsorships or donating a gift to the raffle, please call Tournament Chairman Kevin Caira at (978) 657-7734.

Three students recognized by NMSC

SCHOLARS FROM PAGE 1

Students throughout the nation were announced, and they placed among the top 50,000 students who entered the 2025 competition by taking the 2023 Preliminary SAT / National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

NMSC, a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance, was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

Scholarships are underwritten by NMSC with its own funds and by approximately 280 business organizations, higher education institutions, and individual donors that share NMSC's goals of honoring the nation's scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.

News and notes from WCTV

Hello friends and neighbors! Here's what's going on at WCTV!

NEW PROGRAMMING JUST FOR YOU!

It All Boyles Down to This Episode 51

Father and son podcast hosts, Jack and Jim, review week 4 of college football, week 3 of the NFL, continue the pick 'em challenge with Kevin and Chris, and welcome back the Celtics.

Under the Lights Feature: Mary Almas

Wilmington High senior Mary Almas hasn't let epilepsy stop her from pursuing her passion of dance, or her newfound love of cheer. Mary, along with her older brother and Wilmington football alum Braedon, sat down to talk about her journey, and their relationship growing up.

*These programs can be viewed on WCTV channels or on WCTV's Youtube channel: WCTV Wilmington.

Meetings covered by WCTV:

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Access Channel: Verizon 38, Comcast 6.

To watch programs On-Demand or for more information check us out at *WCTV.org*.

WCTV is located at 10 Waltham St., Wilmington

Office hours by appointment: (978) 657-4066.

Questions about WCTV? Contact: *info@wctv.org*

From left, John Chemaly, Gerry Leone, David Daly, Joe Faro, Scouting Boston Chief Executive John Judge, and Scouting Boston Board Chairman David Clayman (Courtesy photo)

Scouting Boston honors leaders at Greater Lowell Good Scout Awards

LOWELL — Scouting Boston hosted the 20th Greater Lowell Good Scout Awards Breakfast at the Hilton Garden Inn Tewksbury/Andover. The event honored three top business leaders, David T. Daly, Joe Faro, and former Middlesex County District Attorney Gerard "Gerry" Leone Jr.

The Greater Lowell Good Scout Awards Breakfast featured the presentation of the Greater Lowell Good Scout Award. This honor is bestowed upon individuals who have demonstrated integrity and genuine concern for others in both their professional and personal lives.

The recipients need not have been Scouts but must carry the "Spirit of Scouting" into their adult lives. They are people who have been unselfish in their service to others... on an individual and community basis. A Good Scout is a person who truly captures the respect and imagination of our youth.

The presentation of The Good Scout Award is a special opportunity for Scouting Boston to honor a leader, company, or civic group who has made a significant contribution to his/her community and has given of themselves to the benefit of others.

Honoree David T. Daly, the founder of Pridestar Trinity EMS, is a longtime fixture in the community with a passion for giving back.

"Receiving the Good Scout Award is a tremendous honor. Scouting has always been about giving back to the community and fostering leadership, and I am grateful to be recognized for these values that guide my life," said David T. Daly.

Joe Faro, Tuscan Village visionary and owner of Tuscan Brands is well-known for his community service in the region.

"I am deeply humbled to receive the Good Scout Award. Scouting has taught me the importance of integrity, perseverance, and service, principles that have shaped my journey in both business and philanthropy," said Joe Faro.

In addition to being a former elected district attorney, Gerry Leone Jr. is also a former federal prosecutor and acclaimed attorney presently with the law firm of Hunton Andrews Kurth, LLP.

"I am personally very thankful for receiving this recognition, which means so much because it reflects the values of integrity, leadership, and community service that the Scouting movement represents," said Gerry Leone.

About Scouting Boston (The Spirit of Adventure Council)

The Boy Scouts Spirit of Adventure Council is one of the most diverse and impactful youth organizations in Massachusetts. The Council serves 76 towns and communities in Massachusetts, including all of Boston, and proudly supports more than 7,300 Scouts and 3,150 volunteers.

We are home to the most popular Scouting facility in the nation, New England Base Camp in Milton, which, along with one other camp property, provides programs for more than 35,000 campers and guests each year.

Base Camp is open to the public year-round and is widely considered the region's top outdoor adventure location. The Greater Lowell Good Scout Breakfast supports all youth programs administered by the Spirit of Adventure Council throughout the region, including Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Lowell, Tewksbury, Tyngsborough, and Westford.

The Council has led a revival of Scouting in the city and is leading the charge to get our children back outdoors and having fun. Early next year, The Boy Scouts' name will officially be changed to Scouting America, to reflect the diversity and inclusion that is a source of pride for Scouting and the Spirit of Adventure Council.

Clinton book tour comes to Boston

By HEATHER BURNS
News Correspondent

BOSTON — On Friday, Sept. 27, 2024, Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton paid a visit to the City of Boston.

This Beantown stop was part of a book tour for her latest book titled "Something Lost, Something Gained: Reflections of Life, Love, and Liberty."

Friday's sold-out book tour stop took place at the Boch Center's Wang Theater in Boston and was moderated by local author Jeff Linney, of the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series.

Clinton has been a prominent figure in the Democratic Party as First Lady to President Bill Clinton, later representing the State of New York as a U.S. Senator, and as Secretary of State for the Obama Administration.

Hillary Rodham Clinton was also the first woman to lead a major political party's presidential ticket in 2016.

Ticket holders to this event were greeted by Palestinian protesters outside the theater entrance. However, the protest remained peaceful, and the evening continued without incident.

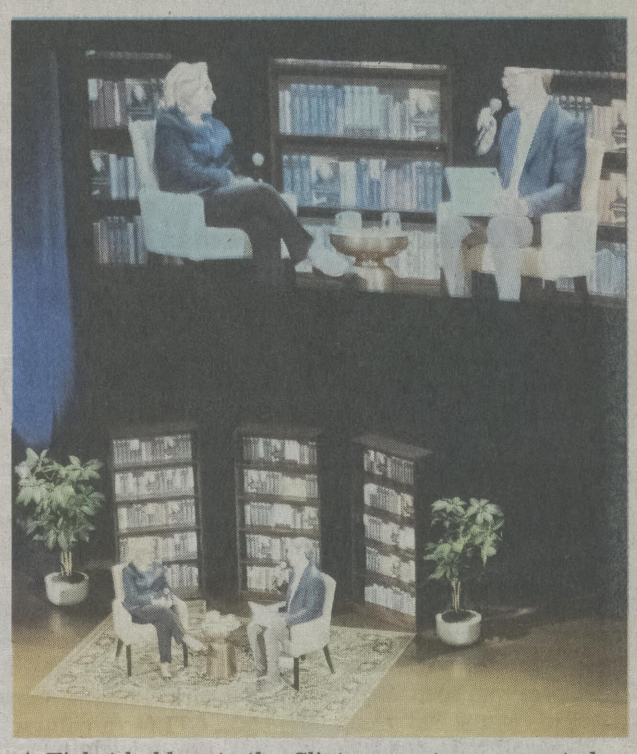
Clinton and Linney took the stage to chat about everything from the fulfillment of grandparenthood to the political climate of the country with regards to the upcoming presidential election.

Discussions on Clinton's latest book focused on family and lifelong friendships, and how they have helped her navigate different aspects of her life.

Later, the conversation turned to the upcoming election and the importance for all citizens to get involved.

She urged everyone to not only comply with their civic duty to vote, but also to encourage friends, family and neighbors to get out and vote.

Clinton is a multi-book author with a writing career spanning over three decades including her recent fictional thriller "State of Terror," written with Louise Penny, and "The Book of Gutsy Women" that she co-wrote with her daughter, Chelsea Clinton.

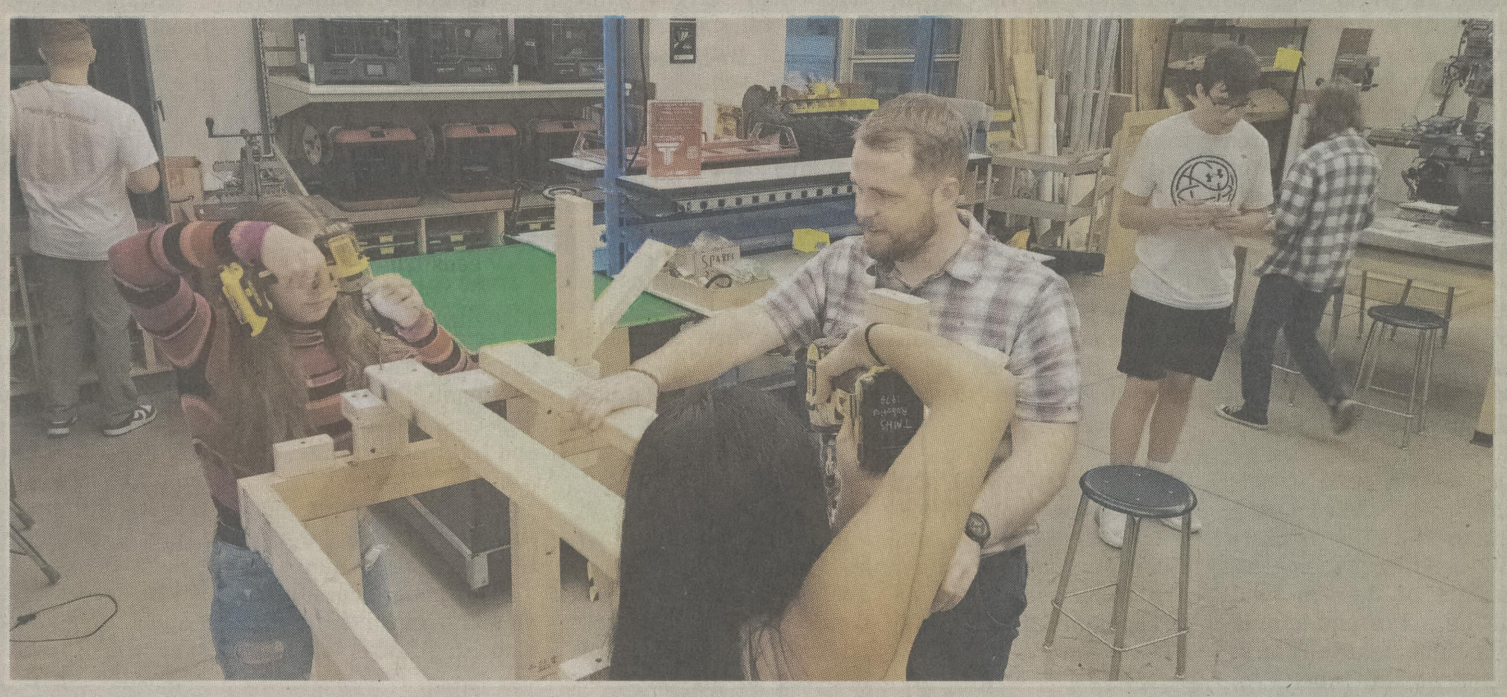


▲ Ticket holders to the Clinton event were greeted by Palestinian protesters, however, the protest remained peaceful, and the events of the evening went off without incident.

(Heather Burns photo)

TMHS Titans Robotics Team to hold Open House

The TMHS Titans Robotics team is holding an Open House on Thursday, Oct. 3 from 6:30 -8 p.m. Current Wynn Middle School 8th graders and TMHS high school students and their families can tour the lab and learn about the robotics team. Tewksbury Public Schools students in grades 8-12 are welcome to join the team. Enter by the tennis courts at TMHS. For more information email: *frcteam1474.coach@gmail.com.*



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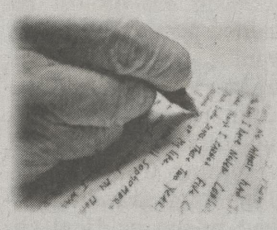
OPINION



Letters to the editor

Fall Fest a huge success

To the editor,

I would like to take a few minutes to thank all involved in putting on the second annual Fall Fest. It was an amazing day for families and friends to get together, enjoy the nice weather, some fantastic food and support local groups and vendors. With over 7000 people and 125 vendors, it was a huge success.

Great job by Patrick Giroux and his committee who work tirelessly to put on fantastic community events.

Thank you to the police, fire, public buildings and DPW departments who work closely with the Fourth of July committee to make Fall Fest, the Holiday Festival and Fun on the Fourth a huge success every year.

I would like to thank the local businesses, youth groups and community groups who also supported this event.

When you hear people make a comment such as "I didn't think communities like this existed anymore," when they saw volunteers from the Wilmington High football team, many other students from Wilmington High and students from Shawsheen Tech, it truly shows what a great town Wilmington is.

Special thank you to the town manager and the four members of the Select Board who supported the event, without your support events like this couldn't happen.

Again great job to everyone involved and thank you for making Wilmington a special place to live.

Steven Hunt

A 'heartfelt' thank you to the Hike for Hope Fall Festival community

To the editor,

On Saturday, Sept. 14, Lazarus House Ministries' 26th annual Hike for Hope Fall Festival brought our incredible community together in support of those facing the challenges of material poverty, homelessness, and food insecurity.

We want to extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who attended, walked, fundraised, volunteered and helped to make an impact. Your commitment is truly inspiring, and it means the world to us and our guests who we are honored to serve.

To date, we've raised $83,000 of our $100,000 goal, with over 314 registered fundraisers. Every step you took and every dollar you raised is helping us change lives. And it's not over yet! Fundraising will remain open until Oct. 31, so there's still time to make an even bigger difference.

Thanks for keeping up the momentum and sharing our mission with friends, family, and colleagues to help us reach our goal!

We'll be announcing the winners of the top fundraising teams and individuals right before Thanksgiving, so stay tuned!

Special recognition goes out to Micki Leblanc and Denise Labrecque, who walked their 26th Hike, having championed this event since the very beginning. Their commitment and dedication to our guests is a true testament to the power of community.

Did you get a chance to enjoy the new Fall Festival? This addition to Hike for Hope festivities brought families and individuals together for fun, food, great music and community spirit, all while raising awareness of the urgent needs our guests face every day.

If you haven't already, share your memories with us by tagging *@Lazarus.House.Ministries* and using the hashtag #HikeForHope on social media — we love seeing your photos and hearing your stories!

Thank you once again for being part of this meaningful day. With Love, Hope and Service, together, we are making a difference.

For more ways to support Lazarus House Ministries, please visit our donation page: *https://p2p.onecause.com/hikeforhopefallfestival.*

Thank you!

New PreK-5 school is the best option

Thank you all for reading my letter. As a disclaimer, I am a member of the School Committee, but the views expressed below are my own and not of the School Committee unless expressly stated.

To the editor,

I am writing this letter to you all to express my support for the PreK-5 new building option at the North Intermediate School. The reasons why I support this are:

• A new school will give the students and families the learning spaces they deserve, and it will be done right, with a clean slate and avoid the headaches of navigating a renovation. All of our elementary schools are aged, have not been renovated and not fit for purpose. We are currently having students take special services in hallway closets due to the lack and insufficient configuration of space. We can do better.

• It starts WPS on the path to consolidation of the elementary schools by creating PreK-5 schools that help students have less school transitions and give them more stability at these young ages. Consolidation will further help families by eliminating multiple school drop offs, multiple school pickups at the same time and constantly learning new school administrations and practices.

Having multiple schools at this age puts a stressful burden on our students and families. Consolidating to PreK-5 can reduce the burden and help these families out immensely.

• It will make the most financial sense in the long term. I understand there is some hesitation around the upfront cost of the new PreK-5 and this may be why some are considering a PreK-3 option. I believe when looking at the cost analysis that a PreK-3 new build, with a renovation of the North, will end up being equal in cost or more expensive to a new PreK-5 school.

With the PreK-3 new and renovate North option, the town will need to now manage two separate major construction projects and will most likely need to delay the North renovation until after the new PreK-3 school is built. This will then result in costs increasing on the North renovation and could potentially hamper or jeopardize other future town capital projects.

Finally, by keeping two schools, the town is now committed to operating two schools instead of one which will end up being more in yearly operating costs as opposed to a single school.

While I have your attention, I would also like to take this time to challenge the notion that the North is in excellent shape due to the recent investments that the town has made in new windows and some HVAC.

• The North used to be a middle school in a past life. It was not significantly renovated to remove the middle school centric features when it was converted to an elementary school. For example, there are still eye wash stations and safety showers still in the classrooms when they used to be middle school science labs. The high school gymnasium is barely the size of a full basketball court with unused and not fit for purpose locker rooms beneath the gym.

• There are some ductless A/C units in the North. They are only located in a few of the classrooms and they are only used in the summer months to support summer programs there. They are not used year round and there are not units in every classroom.

• I have many more examples, but I will not continue. The idea is to paint a picture for you all that some upgrades have been performed, which was great, and much more significant structural renovation will need to take place to get this school to be at the level it needs to support our students.

As you all begin to think about how you will vote, I would like to advocate that the community is going to be looking for you all to help guide us to the best option for our students and families. The rationale is that you all are the most in-tune with the project and can expertly advocate the direction we need to go. You all have spent so much time, effort and energy on this project.

The Building Committee's analysis said the new PreK-5 was the best option, and the School Committee has also voted that new PreK-5 will be the best option for students and their families. Please follow your analysis and discard the desire to placate the minority of loud voices.

After the vote has been complete, I would also like to challenge the Building Committee to examine how to reduce the cost of the new PreK-5 option as best as possible so the financial impact on the community can be mitigated.

To close, I would like to remind you all that we have a generational opportunity to enact lasting positive change for students and their families with this MSBA grant. We can consolidate the schools to lessen the burden on the families and dramatically improve the educational spaces to help our children. What I am worried about is that the fear of change or inertia may squander us as a community taking this opportunity.

It is up to us to be the leaders that town is looking for and help guide everyone to a better and stronger chapter in Wilmington's education system.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Michael Mercaldi

The case for a new Pre-K to fifth school building

Dear editor,

We would like to invite our fellow Wilmington residents to email our board representatives or to come to the Oct. 8 meeting of the Wilmington School Building Committee to demonstrate how important a new PreK-5 building is to the whole community.

On Oct. 8, the Wilmington School Building Committee will make a decision that will shape the future of schools in Wilmington. They will vote to choose one option that will move forward to address three of the six aged elementary schools, including the Wildwood (built in 1955), the Woburn Street School (built in 1963), and the Wildwood (built in 1955).

These schools, all almost 70 years old, have significant deficiencies and needs.

The Parent/Guardian Advocates for Wilmington Schools (PAWS) Planning Team endorses a Pre-K to Grade 5 option to address all three of the aged schools that are in the scope for this project. We believe this is a generational opportunity to advance innovative and flexible learning spaces for the future and to highlight Wilmington's ongoing commitment to education.

We support a new PreK-5 school building for the following reasons:

Community Support for a PreK-5 School:

In community surveys & in the educational visioning sessions held last Fall, the new PreK-5 option has been consistently expressed as the preferred option

Pre-K to 5th grade performs best on the building committee's evaluation criteria, which included education, site, restriction community, sustainability, logistics, consolidation, and total time of the project.

The school superintendent recommends the Pre-K to 5th grade option

The school committee members endorse the Pre-K to 5th grade option

Academic Reasons for a PreK-5 School:

Opportunity to change the footprint of learning experience to accommodate modern needs for learning, including infrastructure for STEM learning and specialist spaces

Stronger alignment of curriculum and professional development

Continuity between elementary grades where teachers know teachers in the same building

Opportunities for mentorship and developing community across grade-levels

Financial Reasons for a PreK-5 School:

The MSBA state grant will award tens of millions of dollars to offset the costs of this project. This is an extremely competitive grant and future projects are not guaranteed this opportunity.

A K-3 option would not resolve the issues with the North Intermediate. One project to address northside schools will be less expensive than multiple projects.

Construction costs continue to escalate; delaying addressing the needs of these school buildings will cost taxpayers millions more.

Operational Reasons for a K-5 School:

Fewer transitions for kids, parents and teachers — bussing, pick-up times,

Limits the need for specialists to drive between schools and increases time on learning

Improved safety features to address fire, security etc.

A/C = Avoid issues arising from heat that have caused school closures

New building will not affect learning during construction

Operating costs are expected to be more efficient — building and maintaining facilities for one building vs many

I hope that these facts will help residents heed our call to action and deliver a message for a new pre-K through 5th grade at the building committee meeting on Oct. 8, where the School Building Committee will decide which option that the town will move forward on.

Sincerely,
The PAWS Planning Team

'There is no permission to be half-white in America'

Boston area resident E. Dolores Johnson appears on the October Book Stew show and podcast with her family memoir, "Say I'm Dead."

As the child of a white mother and a Black father who married in 1943 (24 years before the Supreme Court's Loving decision, which set aside the prohibition against interracial marriage in 15 states), Dolores grew up with no knowledge of her mother's family.

After seeing the TV show Roots, she decided to try and fill out the white half of her family tree that was missing, only to find out that her mother and father had fled from Indiana, national headquarters of the Ku Klux Klan, to Buffalo, New York, rather than risk being arrested for breaking the law.

Knowing that her family would not give permission for their daughter to marry a Black man, Ella Jackson disappeared from their lives. 36 years later, this would change, thanks to the persistence of Dolores.

This is a most troubled and remarkable story and Dolores is very candid about the devastating impact of the laws against miscegenation, or "race mixing" on her and on her family.

Please join host Eileen MacDougall and the new Book Stew episode on WCTV on Tuesdays at 1 p.m., Wednesdays at 8 p.m., Friday at 7 p.m., and Saturdays at noon. Click on the links and enjoy!

YouTube: *https://tinyurl.com/bookstew130-yt*

SoundCloud podcast: *https://tinyurl.com/bookstew130-sc*

Want your opinion heard?

We LOVE your letters!
Send Letters to the Editor to:
office@yourtowncrier.com.

All submissions must be accompanied by full name, address, and daytime contact information for verification purposes.
Letters must be e-mailed by noon on Monday in order for consideration the same week's edition.

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OBITUARIES

Joan T. (Orpen) Joyce

Enjoyed traveling and cruising with family

Joan T. (Orpen) Joyce, age 84, a resident of Tewksbury for over 20 years, formerly of Wilmington and Charlestown, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her loving family and hospice on Sunday, Sept. 29, 2024.

She was the beloved wife of retired Boston Fire Lieutenant, John F. "Jack" Joyce, with whom she celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in May of this year.

Born in Boston on Feb. 17, 1940, she was the daughter of the late Richard John Orpen and the late Irene Antoinette (Salvo) (Orpen) Hamilton.

She enjoyed traveling and cruising with family and friends, as well as knitting, quilting, winter vacations to North Myrtle Beach, SC, and caring for her family.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her four children, Susan J. Boudreau and her husband Daniel, of Tewksbury, Sandra J. Wilk and her husband Stephen, of Tewksbury, Roberta A. McPherson and her husband Bruce, of Tewksbury, and John R. Joyce and his wife Lisa, of Ayer; seven grandchildren: Adele McNamara and her husband Daniel, Emily Boudreau, Olivia Boudreau and her fiancé Emilio Pacheco, Patrick Wilk and his wife Marilyn, Rachel Kern and her husband Jack, Audrey Wilk, and Ryan Joyce; five great-grandchildren, Addyson Hoffman, Jack Wilk, Logan Kern, Isla McNamara, and Anne McNamara; and two sisters, Loretta Woods and her late husband John, of Charlestown, and Irene "Bunny" Fratalia and her husband Vincent, of Tewksbury.

She leaves many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends.

Relatives and friends will be received on Friday, Oct. 4, 2024 from 4-7 p.m., immediately followed by a memorial prayer service, all to be held at the Farmer & Dee Funeral Home, 16 Lee Street, Tewksbury.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Joan's memory may be made to the Boston Shriners Hospital at *www.shrinerschildrens.org*

Barbara J. (Ruger) White

Worked in the Woburn Street School kitchen

Barbara J. (Ruger) White, age 96, a long-time resident of Wilmington, passed away on Sept. 24, 2024.

Barbara was born on Nov. 17, 1927, in Brooklyn, NY; she was the cherished daughter of the late Karl and Gertrude L. (Baylis) Ruger. Barbara was raised on Long Island and graduated from Freeport High School.

Following graduation, Barbara attended Green Mountain Junior College in VT, where she met her husband, Lester E. White. They were married on Sept. 15, 1951, and lived in Kentucky for a few years while Les was stationed in the military.

Barbara and Lester settled in Wilmington, where they raised their three daughters, Debra, Nancy, and Cindy.

Barbara worked at the Woburn Street School kitchen for her entire career. She enjoyed working with her fellow lunch ladies and loved caring for the children during their lunchtime.

Barbara and Lester had a very active social circle; they had many friends with whom they traveled. The group visited places such as Germany, Switzerland and a cruise to the Caribbean. Barbara and Les were founding members of the "Hot Rivets Camping Club"; they camped all over New England, often making new friends wherever they went.

Barbara was very involved with the Methodist Church in Wilmington. She enjoyed the time she spent at the social events, especially "coffee hour." Barbara volunteered her time at the church clubs and helped to organize many activities for the church members, including craft shows and fairs.

Barbara often volunteered at the Mission of Deeds; she really enjoyed the time she spent with her fellow volunteers with helping people who were in need.

Barbara will be remembered for the love of her family. She loved hosting and preparing big meals for everyone. She was a talented seamstress and made clothes and doll clothes for her daughters and grandchildren.

Barbara was a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother. She will be greatly missed.

Barbara was the beloved wife of the late Lester E. White, devoted mother of Debra Parker and her late husband Dennis of Tewksbury, Nancy Markgren and her late husband Russell of Wells, ME, and Cynthia Barcellos and her husband Michael of Wilmington, loving "Gram" of Lucas Markgren of Worcester, Derek Markgren and his wife Megan of Falmouth, ME, Katelyn Paquette and her husband Cameron of Richford, VT, Stefany Parry and her husband Steven of Reading and the late Kerin Parker, "Great-Gram" of Tate Markgren, Eli Parry, and Annie Parry.

Barbara was the dear sister of the late Buddy Ruger and his wife Sheffy of NY and the late Larry Ruger and his wife Bonnie of California. Barbara is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will gather for Visitation at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave., (Rt. 62), Wilmington on Sunday, Oct. 6 from 1 - 2:30 p.m. immediately followed by a Funeral Service at 2:30 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Barbara's name may be made to St. Jude's Children Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or to the Mission of Deeds, 6 Chapin Ave., Reading, MA 01867. *www.whitepages.com*

Grace R. (Dame) Santo

Professional seamstress for sportswear company

Grace R. (Dame) Santo, of Wilmington, passed away peacefully at home on Sept. 28, 2024.

Grace was born in Montague City, MA; she was the daughter of the late Forrest Dame and Doris (Belanger) Dame.

Grace moved to Wilmington as a baby; she was a true "Wilmington Townie" who was educated in the Wilmington school system and where she made many life-long friends. Grace went on to attend U Mass Lowell, which was formerly known as Lowell Technology School when she attended, and she earned her certification as a comptroller.

Family was Grace's priority; in her early years, Grace worked as a professional seamstress for a ladies sportswear company and made "Ginny" Dolls so she could be home to raise her children.

Grace was also a traffic supervisor and a court matron for 10 years for the Town of Wilmington.

After her family was grown, Grace went to work as a switch board operator for Thoratec, she also worked at Astra Zeneca, Inc., and was an administrator for the Kennecott Copper Company prior to retiring.

Grace had many friends and hobbies. She enjoyed dancing with her late husband Frank at the Elks in Tewksbury, the couple also enjoyed snowmobiling, jet skiing, boating, and entertaining family and friends at their home on Lake Winnipesaukee in Laconia, New Hampshire.

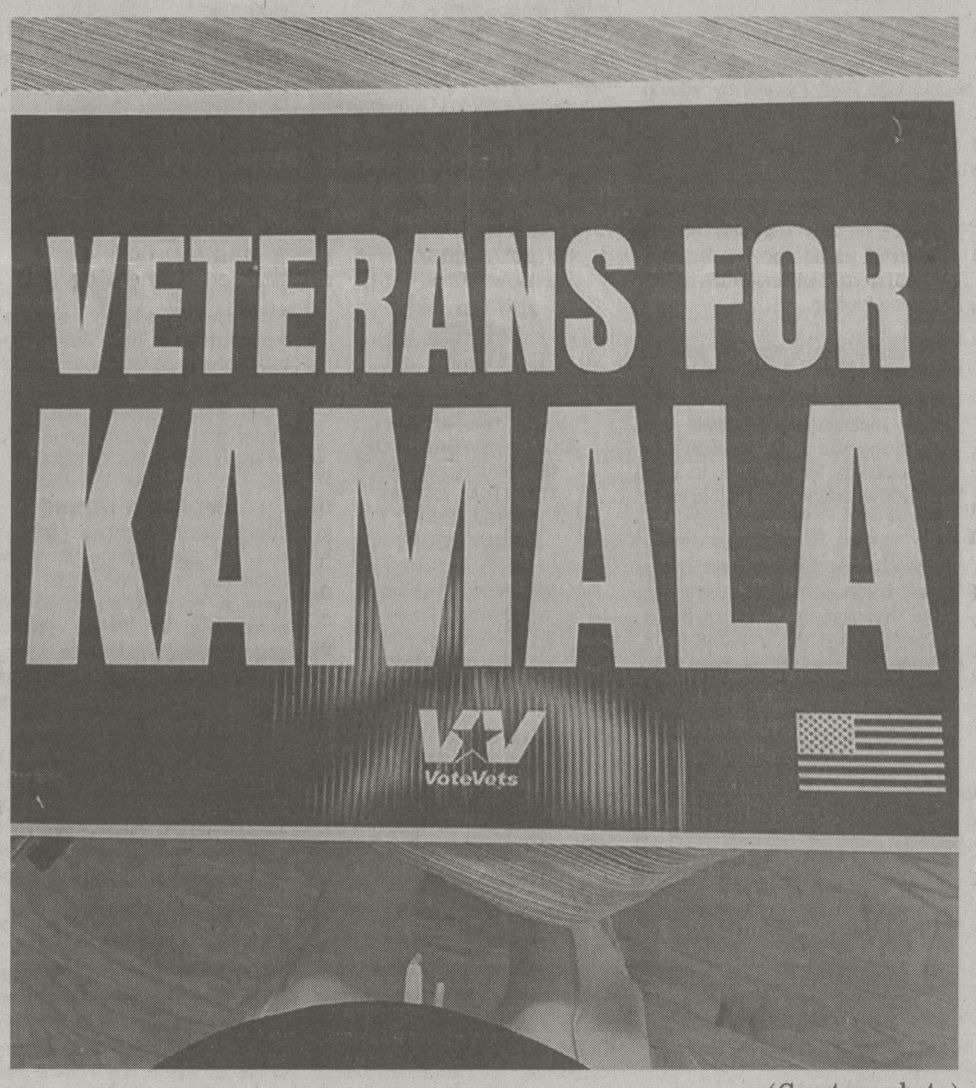
Grace was the beloved wife of the late Frank Santo, who passed away in 2010. She was the devoted mother of her daughter Louise Cain and her husband Edward of North Andover, and her son Stephen Henderson and his wife Mary Ann of Norwood.

She was the cherished Nana of Laurie Westcott and her husband Bill, Frank Cain and his wife Rebecca, Allyson Costello and Lindsay Bishop, great-grandmother of Ashley Fichera and her partner David Gardner, Caitlin Fichera and her partner Parker Gammon, Frank Cain, Samantha Cain, Vivienne Costello, Lyla Bishop-Paquin, Camille Costello, and great-great-Grandmother of Maverick Gardner, and arriving soon Lyla Gardner and Paisley Gammon.

Family and friends gathered for Visiting Hours at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave. (Rt. 62), Wilmington, on Tuesday, Oct. 1 from 4-7 p.m. A Funeral Mass for Grace was held on Wednesday, Oct. 2 in St. Thomas Church, 126 Middlesex Ave., Wilmington, at 11:30 a.m. Interment took place in Wildwood Cemetery, Wilmington.

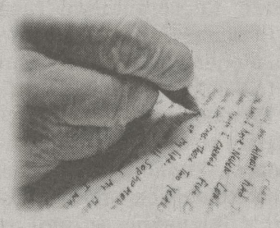
In lieu of flowers, donations in Grace's memory may be made to Perkins School for the Blind, 175 North Beacon Street, Watertown, MA 02472.

To leave a message of condolence for the family please visit our website at *www.nicholsfuneralhome.com*



(Courtesy photo)

Thanks to all for successful Fall Fest



Letters to the editor

Dear editor,

On behalf of the Wilmington Fourth of July Committee, we wish to express sincere thanks to those who attended our second annual Fall Fest on Saturday, Sept. 28, and to the town manager, Select Board, DPW, Public Buildings, police, fire and health Departments for their support of this new community tradition.

Attended by over 7,100 attendees, showcasing 125+ businesses, vendors, and food trucks, the event was a culmination of community and seasonal spirit. A special thank you to the nearly 100 volunteers who supported the event, the local construction, landscaping and speciality service companies for the "touch a truck," Jr. WOW for supporting the children's area, WOW Factor Auto Detailing for the morning breakfast, and those who joined in the Fall Fest 5k.

A first for Wilmington, we enjoyed the introduction of our "Fall Beer, Wine and Cider Fest" as part of this event, thanks to the trust of our Select Board and town leadership. The overall event could not be possible without the generous contribution of Wayne's Drains, AJ's Pizza, Pearle Vision, CMS Plumbing, John's Sewer, and Slate Beauty.

All monies raised during this event support our tree lighting and Fun on the Fourth events. We are also pleased that proceeds raised from this event will support the Wilmington Special Olympics games in spring, 2025.

The event was planned and sponsored by the volunteers of the Wilmington Fourth of July Committee, a group of 10 residents committed to Wilmington's traditions, community spirit, and bettering the town. Hope to see you and your family for our Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration on Saturday, Dec. 7.

Patrick Giroux
Chairman, Wilmington
Fourth of July Committee

Sign stolen from yard

To the editor,

To the "person" who stole our sign from the yard:

I'm not sure why you stole it, maybe you needed it more than I did, perhaps you just thought it looked nice. Maybe you took it for fun, as a prank or you're just a low-class individual.

I want you to know that some DISABLED VETERANS just want to express their thoughts about the country they chose to defend. But if you realize now it was wrong, and you'd like to return it, I'll be grateful to have it back, no questions asked.

If not, I hope it brings you whatever it brought us — peace, hope, or maybe just a small reminder of what it means to be free and able to express our opinions.

Sincerely,
Your neighbor
Joe and Donna Gill

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Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell at Public Auction on:
OCTOBER 16, 2024 • 1:00 PM
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The personal property heretofore stored with the undersigned by:
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Healey-Driscoll Administration issues student loan repayment to 721 health and human service workers

BOSTON — The Healey-Driscoll Administration announced that the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) issued $14.6 million in student loan repayment award notifications to 721 direct care human service workers, supervisors and home health workers across the state.

Part of the MA Repay program, the Human Service and Home Health Workers (HSHHW) Student Loan Repayment Program accepted applications from Jan. 29, 2024, to March 1, 2024. The program attracted a high volume of applications from eligible candidates, resulting in a highly competitive application process.

About half of awardees represent diverse racial and ethnic populations, with 56% of awardees speaking a language other than English.

"The MA Repay Human Service and Home Health Workers Loan Repayment program provides student debt relief to a broad range of professionals who dedicate their lives to helping underserved populations," said Governor Maura Healey. "We're proud to be executing now on the third round of the MA Repay Program and making this major investment to support workers in essential community roles across Massachusetts."

"This program makes a major difference in the lives of dedicated professionals who provide essential care and support in our communities," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "By easing their financial burden, we ensure that they can continue focusing on their important work, ultimately improving the quality of care and support for those who need it most."

Eligible applicants include but are not limited to care managers, direct support professionals, social workers, and licensed clinicians.

The HSHHW Student Loan Repayment Program opened eligibility to early education, childcare, home health, and other home- and community-based workers for the first time since the MA Repay Program began. Awards range between $3,000 and $30,000, depending on the awardees' degree level and whether they work full- or part-time. In exchange for these awards, professionals commit to a 1-, 2-, or 3-year service in an eligible setting.

"MA Repay and our partnership with the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers delivers meaningful student loan relief to our dedicated human service and home health professionals," said Health and Human Services Secretary Kate Walsh. "Their work is vital to our communities, and these loan repayment opportunities are one way we can show how much we really value the people who do these important jobs."

"We are thrilled to deliver student loan relief to 721 direct care human service workers, supervisors, and home health professionals across the state," said Assistant Secretary for Mass Health Mike Levine. "By supporting these dedicated individuals working in underserved communities, we are ensuring that our members have access to essential, high-quality care."

"We are proud to partner with the Healey-Driscoll Administration to provide financial relief and support for the direct care professionals providing high-quality home and community-based care across Massachusetts," said Michael Curry, Esq., President and CEO of the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers. "Through the MA Repay Human Service and Home Health Workers Loan Repayment program, patients and families across Massachusetts will continue to benefit from a diverse and talented human service and home health care workforce that is committed to providing care for years to come."

Applicant eligibility was contingent on their employment by a human service organization located in Massachusetts and funded or licensed by one of 15 state agencies. In addition to the minimum eligibility requirements, applicants meeting one or more of the following criteria were prioritized to receive an award:

Applicant with an individual salary less than 50% of the area median income;

Applicant can communicate with clients/patients and provide care in language other than English, and that language skill matches the need of the site where the applicant works;

Applicant can demonstrate through a short answer response the ability to support access and delivery of services in a culturally competent manner to beneficiaries, including those with limited English proficiency, diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds, disabilities, and regardless of sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity;

Applicant that is living or working in a Vaccine Equity Initiative (VEI) Community: Boston, Brockton, Chelsea, Everett, Fall River, Fitchburg, Framingham, Haverhill, Holyoke, Lawrence, Leominster, Lowell, Lynn, Malden, Methuen, New Bedford, Randolph, Revere, Springfield, and Worcester; and/or,

Applicant that has worked in the direct care field for 3 or more years.

This constitutes the third round of the MA Repay Program, a student loan repayment program announced in November 2022 to support health and human service professionals in Massachusetts. The program is implemented in partnership with the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers (MLCHC). Previously, the first round of MA Repay provided educational debt relief to thousands of primary care and behavioral health providers.

The second round made available $10 million in student debt relief to healthcare professionals who work for the Department of Mental Health (DMH), and over $3.4 million to 154 nurses who provide continuous skilled nursing (CSN) services to MassHealth members.

LEGAL NOTICES ARCHIVE

All published legal notices are posted to the Massachusetts Public Notices website.
To search the archive of previously published legal notices go to:
www.homenewshere.com OR masspublicnotices.org/Search.aspx

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON PLANNING BOARD

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Section 5, the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium at 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA on the Zoning Articles proposed for inclusion on the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting to be held December 7, 2024. The Public Hearing will be conducted jointly with the Finance Committee.

The following summarizes the Zoning Articles that will be considered at the Public Hearing:

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw and associated Zoning Map of the Town of Wilmington by creating a new Section 6.12 for the MBTA Communities Multi-family Overlay District (MOD) with four Subdistricts (Main Street Mixed Use Sub-district, Burlington Avenue Sub-district, Deming Way Subdistrict, and West Street Subdistrict), or take any other action related thereto.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw Section 6.5 Site Plan Review by adding "Final action on site plans for allowed uses per Table 1 Principal Use Regulations shall be limited to approval or approval with the imposition of reasonable conditions." to the end of the second paragraph of Section 6.5.3, or to take any other action related thereto.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw by deleting the entirety of Section 6.11 Inclusionary Housing and replacing with a new Section 6.11 Inclusionary Housing, or to take any other action related thereto.

The Zoning Articles and maps may be inspected by contacting the Department of Planning & Conservation at 978-658-8238 Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Articles may also be found on the Town website.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board
241038 10/3, 10/24

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate and Family Court 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR REMOVAL OF A GUARDIAN OF AN INCAPACITATED PERSON

Docket No. MI07P2399GI2

In the Interests of:
Marcello Lomagno
Of: TEWKSBURY, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/
Protected Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Department of Mental Health of Westborough, MA** in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: **Remove the Guardian of the Respondent**

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **10/11/2024.** This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Maureen H. Monks, First Justice of this Court.

Date: September 13, 2024
Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
241016 10/03/24

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY PLANNING BOARD

PUBLIC HEARING

FAMILY SUITE SPECIAL PERMIT

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **October 21, 2024 at 7:00 PM** in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by Robert and Maria Smith for a Family Suite Special Permit pursuant to Section 7.1 of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw to convert existing space within the single family dwelling for a family suite as shown on plans filed with this Board.

Said property is located at 24 Sheridan Lane, Assessor's Map 38, Lot 41, zoned Residential.

The application may be examined on the Planning Board webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Stephen Johnson, Chairman
241013 10/3, 10/24

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate and Family Court 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. MI24P4976EA

Estate of:
Brenda E. Boyle

Date of Death: 02/13/2021

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Michael J. Boyle** of **Tewksbury MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/17/2024.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Terri L. Klug Cafazzo, First Justice of this Court.

Date:September 19, 2024
Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
241011 10/3/24

LEGAL NOTICE

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by K & M Amusement Center LLC to Colony Bank dated January 24, 2023 and recorded with the Middlesex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds, Book 37646, page 218, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder,
for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 o'clock, p.m. on the 23rd day of October, 2024, at 2087 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876, Middlesex County, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,
To wit:
The land with the buildings thereon located in Tewksbury, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, being shown as Lots 1,2 and 3 on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Land in Tewksbury, Middlesex County, Mass. Owned by Richard Proctor, Robert P. Morris, P.L.S. Scale 1" = 100 feet, April 25, 2003" which plan is recorded in Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 211, Page 65, to which plan reference is hereby referred for a more particular description. Lot 1 contains 14.6 acres +/-, Lot 2 contains 264,900 sq. ft. +/-, and Lot 3 containing 89,500 sq. ft. +/-, all as according to said plan.
Excepting from the above described premises the land in Tewksbury, Middlesex County, Massachusetts being shown as Lot C (72,786 square feet) and Parcel A (6,063 square feet) as shown on a Subdivision Plan of Land Prepared for GRB Realty, LLC, 120 Judique Road, Tewksbury, MA 01876, dated November 28, 2011, Scale 1" = 40', by Cuoco & Cormier Engineering Associates, Inc., said Plan being recorded in Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 223, Page 118, the same having been previously conveyed by GRB Realty LLC by the following deeds: (1) deed to Allen L. Boutiette and Gail A. Boutiette, Trustees of G&A Realty Trust, dated December 19, 2011 and recorded with Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds on December 20, 2011 at Book 25553, Page 187 (Lot C) and (2) deed to Allen L. Boutiette and Gail A. Boutiette, Trustees of A&G Realty Trust, dated December 19, 2011 and recorded with said Deeds on December 20, 2011 at Book 25553, Page 189 (Parcel A).
The within granted premises being Lots 1, 2 and 3 on the above referenced plan at Plan Book 211, Page 65 less the excepted Lot C and Parcel A on the above referenced plan at Plan Book 233, Page 118, is shown as Lot B on a plan entitled "Plan of Land, Map 84, Lot B, 2087 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA, prepared for GRB Realty LLC, 102 Judique Road, Tewksbury, MA 01876, dated December 6, 2011, Scale 1" = 60', prepared by Cuoco & Cormier Engineering Associates, Inc., said Plan being recorded in Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 233, Page 119, to which plan reference is hereby made for a more particular description of said Lot B.

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens, and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens, or encumbrances is made in the deed.

Terms of sale: The highest bidder in the sale of the premises shall deposit a bank treasurer's check, or certified check in the amount of **ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS ($100,000.00)** at the time and place of the sale of the premises as a non-refundable earnest money deposit towards the purchase price to be held at the option of the Mortgagee as liquidated damages for any default by the successful bidder. The highest bidder in the sale of the premises shall then be required to remit by federal wire transfer an additional non-refundable deposit in an amount to bring the total deposit up to ten percent (10%) of the bid, price within five (5) business days of the date of the public auction. The successful bidder shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Sale at the public auction containing the terms herein and any additional terms set forth in the Memorandum of Sale or announced at the public auction. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to the Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale may be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.
In the event the successful bidder at the public auction shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of the Mortgagee's Sale and/or terms of the Foreclosure Sale Agreement executed at the public auction, the Mortgagee reserves the right at its election, to sell the property to the second highest bidder at the public auction provided that Mortgagee, in its discretion may require (i) said second highest bidder to deposit the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice to the second highest bidder of the default of the previous highest bidder, (ii) the second highest bidder to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement, and (iii) the closing occur within twenty (20) days of said written notice, time being of essence unless mortgagee agrees otherwise.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Present holder of said mortgage,
COLONY BANK
By its attorneys,
Akerman LLP
50 N. Laura Street
Suite 3100
Jacksonville, FL 32202
T: 904 798 3700
F: 904 798 3730
240992 9/26,10/3,10/24

Wilmington, Tewksbury voters encouraged to watch debate this Monday

WILMINGTON — Candidates in the 19th Middlesex State Representative race will square off in a debate on Monday, Oct. 7, 2024, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

The debate will be streamed live on the YouTube channels of Wilmington Community Television and Tewksbury Telemedia, as well as on WCTV (Comcast 9, Verizon 37) and Tewksbury Telemedia (Comcast 6, Verizon 33).

This three-way race features Dave Robertson (D-Wilmington), Paul Sarnowski (R-Wilmington) and George Ferdinand (I-Tewksbury).

Robertson, a three-term incumbent, defeated Sarnowski in 2022, with Sarnowski delivering a strong performance for a first-time candidate, receiving nearly 44 percent of the vote. With a higher turnout expected due to the presidential election, coupled with the inclusion of Ferdinand, an elected member of the Tewksbury Board of Health with ties to Wilmington, adds even greater unpredictability to this exciting race.

The debate will be moderated by one of Massachusetts's top State House reporters, Katie Lannan. She currently covers Beacon Hill for GBH News, and previously spent seven years with the State House News Service. Lannan is no stranger to Wilmington and Tewksbury, covering both communities for the *Lowell Sun* for several years earlier in her career.

Candidates will be asked questions from Lannan and a panel of local journalists, including Peter Currier of the *Lowell Sun*, Lizzy Hill of the *Wilmington and Tewksbury Town Crier*, and Kari Weinstein of the *Tewksbury Carnation*. Robert Hayes, of the Wilmington Apple, will serve as time keeper.

The debate will take place from WCTV Studios (10 Waltham St.) There will be no studio audience.

For those who can't watch live, the debate will be available for on-demand viewing beginning the following day on the YouTube channels for WCTV and Tewksbury Telemedia.

Early voting runs from Saturday, Oct. 19, 2024 through Friday, Nov. 1, 2024 at each community's Town Hall. Early voting hours vary between the two towns. Contact your Town Clerk's Office for details.

The last day to register to vote in the election is Oct. 26, 2024 by 5 p.m.

The deadline to request a vote by mail or absentee ballot is Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2024 by 5 p.m.

Election day voting is held on Nov. 5, 2024, from 7 to 8 p.m., at your regular polling location.

The 19th Middlesex District consists of all of Wilmington and approximately 60 percent of Tewksbury (Precincts 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8). The late State Representative James Miceli served much of the district from 1993 to 2018, with Robertson, his legislative aide, winning the seat following his passing.

Committee wonders if goals should be longer-term

SCHOOL FROM PAGE 1

the middle school from the district leadership team, and the work from the middle school program review is ongoing. He said he could add the leadership walkthroughs as a goal or add something around improvement or student learning if the committee so desired.

Stephen Turner suggested that the superintendent goals may be longer-term, and it may in some cases be appropriate to carry the goals over several years.

Dr. Mike Mercaldi proposed that after Brand completes the communications course, he could add specific tasks to this goal. Otherwise, he commented that the goals are all relevant.

Brand agreed that the key takeaways from the course could be leveraged, and there may be a task such as creating or improving upon the district communications plan as part of the goal.

Dr. Jenn Bryson said she'd like to see the work of the middle school program review continue.

David Ragsdale noted that the goals seemed to focus on the inputs and not the outcomes that they seek. For example, participation in the communications program seemed like the means but not the goal. He said he'd like to see this goal reframed into a district communications plan or lessons learned.

He also agreed that it would be appropriate to carry over some of last year's goals that haven't been completed.

Turner also suggested that the superintendent could save any of these proposed goals for next year.

Nicholas Golden said he agreed with his colleagues.

Brand agreed to return and present again after he makes refinements according to the feedback.

Brand's next item in his report pertained to the MSBA project. He mentioned that the Wildwood School Building Committee agreed to pause their vote on one option until Oct. 8 in order to secure greater community engagement and feedback. Just one way they had done that was through a community survey which received over 1,000 responses to be compiled and shared ahead of the meeting. They also held several community forums and hosted a table at Fall Fest.

Brand described that the survey asked residents to rank the options in terms of priority, determined their interest in school consolidation, and asked their preference of size of gymnasium. He added that the community's feedback will also be necessary when they are asked to vote on the project at the upcoming special Town Meeting.

Mercaldi asked Brand to share where residents could direct their questions. Brand replied that they could attend any WSBC meeting or email questions to *wildwoodprojectquestions@wpsk12.com*.

Lastly, Brand shared that Wilmington High School had been ranked 38/150 in high schools in the Boston area. He said that this was a testament to the strong partnership in the district between parent/guardians, caregivers, and staff and educators. Turner also pointed out that the high school is one of just 12 schools counted as "best bang for the buck."

Resident Melissa Plowman spoke during public comment to express her strong support of a kindergarten through grade 5 consolidation project. She said that this was a fiscally wise and educationally imperative project to the town.

"The cost to operate and maintain three buildings is undoubtedly more expensive than to maintain one," she continued.

Regarding concerns about the district's youngest learners attending the same school as students in fifth grade, she saw this as an opportunity for peer mentoring, leadership and role modeling. She also mentioned the ability for teachers to collaborate, co-plan, attend professional development, and align curriculum.

Ryan Kessler commented that there were a lot of engaged stakeholders and parents in the community who would now be tasked with talking to their neighbors who seem to be concerned about taxes and the price of the proposed building.

Bryson clarified that it's the WSBC and not the School Committee who votes on the preferred option.

Director of Administration and Finance Paul Ruggiero later presented the draft fiscal year 2026 budget calendar.

Mercaldi volunteered to be on the contract negotiations team for administrative assistants and Golden for the nurses contract negotiations. However, the committee agreed to wait to form the teams until the negotiations were closer.

The committee's next meeting will be Wednesday Oct. 9.

No real issues with transportation after first weeks of school

BUS FROM PAGE 1

stop, delays expected, arrival at school at least five minutes prior to the bell, dismissal and loading onto the bus within 15 minutes of the last bell, routes up to 45 minutes long, established passenger capacity, consistent ridership, staying on the assigned bus, students knowing the bus stop, and fitting instruments or sports equipment on their lap.

In terms of data, they had seen buses arriving at the high school on time but slightly late to the middle school — between 8:05 and 8:08 a.m. This has since been adjusted. They were getting bus riders out of all the buildings and onto buses within 15 minutes.

This year, they brought back the bus pass which was abandoned during COVID, in order to help students who may not know where they're going. The bus passes are color-coded and numbered. Faretra said that she believed it had been effective.

They had a few students who boarded the wrong school bus or got off at the wrong stop, who also registered for the bus within the first week of school. Faretra said that when families fail to register their students for the bus on time, it has an impact on vehicles, drivers, school staff, and parents.

She went on to say that they process late registered students as quickly as possible and may use other stops until updates are made.

However, for next year, she wanted to be fair to the other students who had registered on time to prevent their schedules from constantly changing in the first week of school. This would require students to register by Aug. 1, otherwise they couldn't be guaranteed to be able to ride on the bus the first week of school.

Other challenges this year included the navigation systems, ongoing road construction, 25 percent increase in Wildwood student ridership, and 150 families registering the week that school started.

Stephen Turner commented that clearly transportation this year was better than the previous year. He suggested that perhaps they could work with GPS providers to not offer routes to cars through Woburn Street, West Street, High Street, or Middlesex Avenue so as to reduce the traffic for the buses.

Faretra said she could speak with the town engineer and safety as to the necessary steps to do so.

Dr. Mike Mercaldi asked what was being done regarding the confusion about Wildwood students' bus pickup times. Faretra said that this had been one of their biggest challenges this year. There were two Wildwood buses that don't pick up anyone before 7 a.m.

She said that none of the four Wildwood buses are even at half capacity. They experienced miscommunication with MassDOT and a strike on Main Street causing variances. There was also a miscommunication with a Wildwood bus driver where they picked up earlier by mistake. Since then, they were consistently picking up the first student closer to 7 a.m.

Brand assured the committee that they were facing realities that they couldn't have planned for when they agreed to move the Wildwood to Carter Lane, but they were working hard to make it as efficient as they can.

Faretra also pointed out that they had a 20 percent increase in Wildwood bus riders since the start of the school year.

David Ragsdale asked if there was a desire to increase the number of buses for the district. Faretra replied that they were in a respectable place, but improvements from here could only be made with additional vehicles.

Jay Samaha noted here that transportation would be smoother with building consolidation.

Faretra agreed that they spend a considerable amount of time transporting between buildings.

Police, fire depts talk about school safety protocols

SAFETY FROM PAGE 1

ded the Georgia incident where not enough was done as a motivating example.

Mercaldi wondered what residents should do if they notice strange behavior suggesting a potential school incident, and Desmond agreed that they should notify the police department.

Stephen Turner asked how they would communicate with parents in advance of an evacuation incident and in the moment so that parents don't block access for emergency responders. Fire Chief Bill Cavanaugh answered that they would send out a reverse 911 and use an initiative for parents to sign up for texts or emails.

They may need an intermediary to handle the ongoing communications about the reunification.

Desmond said, "No matter how much you tell them not to, you're going to have parents who go right to the scene. Who's going to judge them in a situation like that?"

Brand stated that the focus of reunification is training and setting expectations for staff and making space for police and fire to assist.

Golden asked them to address the Massachusetts Red Flag Law. Desmond shared that they can seize someone's weapons if they have concerns about an individual.

David Ragsdale pointed out that the adjoining doors at the back of classrooms are considered egress, which is why they can't be locked. Deputy Chief Christopher Pozzi explained that existing buildings have to comply with existing building codes, and adjoining doors in classrooms without sprinklers must be part of the egress plan and therefore cannot be locked. Anything that would impede egress would be considered a hazard. They could consider a lock, but it would take a security audit to research a permitted lock for these doors.

Ragsdale asked if any other towns have done the research already. Pozzi said instead that some towns have chosen to violate fire code and install locks on these types of doors. Regarding the necessity of the adjoining doors, Pozzi said that the existing adjoining doors are required by the evacuation plan, and rooms without a second exit need to have a sprinkler. He also added that changes to the school have to be evaluated by a full fire code analysis and are rarely approved.

Jay Samaha pointed out that the new building through the MSBA project wouldn't have these safety issues. Mercaldi noted that he'd want to learn about their options for the existing aging elementary schools.

Dr. Jenn Bryson asked about how the outside classroom door locks are checked. Brand provided that the first line of defense would be a staff member or custodian, and then a program notifies Public Buildings to assist or to bring in a third party.

Bryson also wondered about the panic buttons, which Brand said have been installed in all school front offices, along with phones in all instructional spaces and offices. Cavanaugh also pointed out that the schools are included in the town's radio system which is monitored 24/7.

Chair Jesse Fennelly asked for more detail on the ALICE procedure. The response said that ALICE stands for alert, lockdown, inform, counter, and evacuate — which are the procedures but not necessary in order. Their procedure is to evacuate safely if possible, otherwise lock down and barricade the room. They would alert a teacher or call 911, keep alerted stakeholders up to date, and counter using objects in the room to divert the intruder's attention or control the person.

Fennelly clarified regarding the Safety Audit that this was an extra step, and the district already had plans in place for first party audits.

Turner proposed that safety information be more easily located on the school website for an extra level of comfort. Brand agreed that they would try to publicize what they can.

A resident asked about specific fire codes during public comment period, also asking if some of the adjoining doors could be removed. They also shared that they've heard that sometimes during lockdown drills, the back doors aren't barricaded according to policy. If putting in locks was a matter of money, he suggested it be put to a vote.

Fennelly thanked the panel for their presentation.

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For more information contact Patti at PattiQRobi@comcast.net

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Wilmington Farmers Market to host end-of-season Harvest Fest

WILMINGTON — The Wilmington Farmers Market is thrilled to announce its 2024 end-of-season Harvest Fest! The event will take place on Sunday, Oct. 6 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Wilmington Town Common. It's the perfect opportunity to celebrate the fall season and support local vendors and community organizations before the market closes for the year.

The Harvest Fest will feature an array of activities and entertainment for all ages, including:

A wide selection of food and artisan craft vendors showcasing local products.

Live music by local musician Dan DeCristofaro, providing a vibrant atmosphere for the festivities.

A fall-themed photo booth to capture special memories.

"Goats and Giggles," a petting area with adorable goats for family fun.

A pumpkin carving demonstration by master pumpkin carver Paul Dever, winner of Outrageous Pumpkins! Watch as Paul transforms pumpkins into artistic masterpieces.

Complementary hot coffee.

Exciting Giveaway! Attendees will have the chance to win a $40 grocery giveaway! To enter, please sign up on our website by completing the entry form at *http://www.wilmingtonfarmersmarket.com/grocery-giveaway.html*. The entry form will be open until Friday, Oct. 4. Don't miss your chance to stock up on fresh produce and local goodies!

In addition to these activities, we're excited to have several local community groups participating:

Spanish Art and Craft, engaging language learning for kids

The Department of Children and Families, providing information and resources for families on fostering

Wilmington United Methodist Church, offering support and community engagement.

Salem Five Bank, engaging with local attendees and offering information.

Guests are encouraged to park at the 4th of July Building Lot, located near the town common, for easy access to the event.

HARVEST FEST!
Wilmington FARMERS MARKET
10/6 from 10am - 1pm
Wilmington Town Common
Fall Photobooth! Paint Pumpkins! Pet Goats!
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2019 champion of Outrageous Pumpkins and master pumpkin carver Paul Denver!

Don't miss this last hurrah of the season — come celebrate the harvest, support local businesses and organizations, and enjoy a day of family-friendly entertainment!

About Wilmington Farmers Market:

The Wilmington Farmers Market Association is a group of volunteers dedicated to bringing a farmers market to our town every summer. The Market was started in 2010 and continues to grow each year.

The Market is located on the Town Common across from the High School located at 161 Church St. The Association's mission is:

To provide a place where community members can purchase fresh produce directly from local New England Farmers.

To provide a diverse and interesting selection of locally grown fruits and vegetables, and locally produced goods.

To educate our community about the importance of sustainable agriculture.

To partner with local organizations such as the library, area health centers and fitness organizations to promote education about healthy eating.

To provide a self-sustaining social experience and to foster a sense of community in Wilmington.

OLIN FROM PAGE 1

Olin site to become warehouse facility

proposed redevelopment does not interfere with the cleanup and that the property is safe for its intended use."

In the PPA, WWI agrees that it will coordinate and cooperate with Olin Corporation to ensure that the construction of the project will be consistent with the requirements of EPA's cleanup plan for the site and consistent with EPA's Consent Decree with Olin Corporation and three other parties responsible for the contamination, to conduct the cleanup and pay agency oversight costs.

The PPA, signed by WWI, EPA, and the Environmental and Natural Resources Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, was previously made available for public review and comment for a 30-day period that ran from July 2 to Aug. 1, 2024. After reviewing all the submitted comments, the United States determined that the comments do not disclose information indicating that the proposed PPA is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. The PPA, now made final, will become effective after WWI acquires the Olin property.

The PPA and related Site documents, including a Responsiveness Summary that provides EPA's responses to the comments on the proposed PPA submitted during the public comment period, and all other documentation are available at EPA's website: *https://www.epa.gov/superfund/olin*.

The FAQ fact sheet can be found here: *https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/01/682867.pdf*.

Background:

The site includes the Olin property and the surrounding areas that have been impacted by contaminant releases from manufacturing and waste disposal activities formerly conducted at the Olin property.

Chemical manufacturing by a series of owners and operators began at the Olin property in 1953 and continued until the facility closed in 1986. Olin Corporation purchased the property in 1980. The facility was used to produce blowing agents, stabilizers, antioxidants, and other specialty chemicals for the rubber and plastics industries.

Prior to the early 1970s, chemicals were discharged into several unlined pits and ponds in the central portion of the property, and later even when lined lagoons were used, leaks in the liners resulted in additional releases of fluids. As the liquid materials moved downward through the soil, they reached the groundwater table — because the liquids were denser than water, they continued to sink downward (as dense aqueous phase liquid or "DAPL"), pooling in a series of cascading depressions on the bedrock surface.

Ultimately, contaminated groundwater migrated nearly a mile to the west and northwest of the Olin property and resulted in the Town of Wilmington placing its municipal drinking water supply wells in the Maple Meadow Brook aquifer off-line due to contamination from the site.

The cleanup plan for the site was selected by EPA in 2021 in a Record of Decision (ROD) and includes interim actions to remove ongoing sources of contamination in groundwater and final cleanup actions for addressing contaminated soil, sediments, and surface water at the site.

In parallel to the cleanup, studies are ongoing under a separate 2007 EPA settlement agreement to improve the characterization of the bedrock and further define the extent of groundwater contamination. These studies will be used to evaluate long-term groundwater cleanup options, leading to the selection in the future of a final cleanup plan for groundwater.

In the near term, these aquifer studies will help identify the best places to locate groundwater extraction wells for the cleanup.

Visit: *www.epa.gov/superfund/olin* for more information about the site.

Herb Chambers

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2022 Honda HRV EX-L AWD H250339, Auto., Lunar Silver, 20K miles	$26,998

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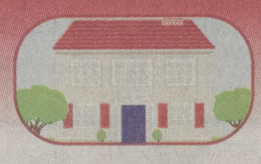
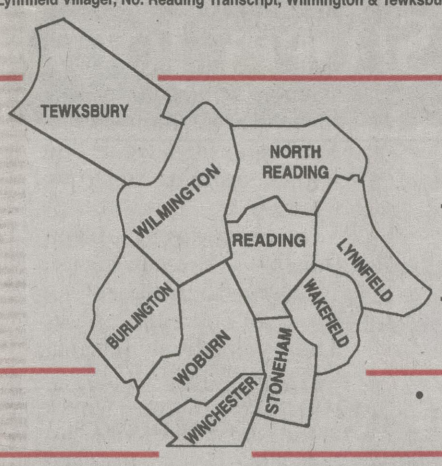


MIDDLESEX EAST appearing in Daily Times – Chronicle (Reading, Woburn, Winchester, Burlington, Wakefield), Lynnfield Villager, No. Reading Transcript, Wilmington & Tewksbury Town Crier, Stoneham Independent

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 3, 2024 B1



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Ten Years Ago:
The Fight for Demoulas

By CASEY STEVENSON

It may be difficult to believe that ten years ago was the famous walk out and strike of Market Basket, but it is thanks to those efforts the Market Basket is still operating the way it is today.

Market Basket is a staple of Massachusetts, with its headquarters located right in Tewksbury.

While the history of Market Basket spans over 100 years, the tale of the boycott and strike begins on June 23, 2014, when Arthur T Demoulas was fired in a vote by the Board of Directors.

The Board was controlled by his cousin, Arthur S. Demoulas, who seemed to fire Arthur T in an internal family feud, and appointed James Gooch and Felica Thornton as co-executives.

Employees and customers were outraged by the decision. Employees were concerned over the decision to pay shareholders more money, over the possibility of rising costs and lowering wages and benefits. They were also fiercely devoted to the CEO who cultivated a family oriented and positive work culture.

Rallies were held at the flagship store in Chelsea, and an ultimatum was delivered to leadership in Tewksbury that either Arthur T was back as CEO, or there would be walk outs. And on July 18, the walk-outs and strike began.

Employees, from truck drivers refusing to deliver products, to cashiers and stackers refusing to come in, made the once bustling stores a ghost town, and customers stopped shopping there in solidarity.

Protests were held at Tewksbury, at the company headquarters, and at every store.

In response, Market Basket fired eight senior employees, threatened to fire all who protested, even threatened to begin posting job listings to replace them all. On Aug. 4, leadership held a job fair and continued threatening the employees with termination through late August.

The fight lasted for two months when, on Aug. 27, Demoulas was reinstated as CEO when he bought the company outright for $1.5 billion.

The protest was covered by countless national and international news stations such as BBC, CBS, WCVB, and it even has its own Wikipedia page.

Demoulas gave the following quote on Aug. 28, 2014:

• DEMOULAS TO B-2

FIGHTING FOR A CAUSE - Kathleen Garon, wife of Joe Garon who was fired via courier back in 2014, spoke to the crowd. "I encourage every Market Basket customer to boycott Market Basket and don't feed the greed," said Kathleen Garon. "This is a war and we're in it to win it." More than 4,000 workers, customers, and media showed up at a rally back then supporting Market Basket oustered CEO Arthur T. Demoulas. Below, Joe Garon riles the growing crowd. (File Photos)

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Movie Reviews & Box Office News

'The Substance' is brilliantly disgusting and deranged

MIRROR MIRROR - Demi Moore in a scene from "The Substance", a biting social commentary on ageism and sexism in Hollywood released by Mubi. (Mubi via AP)

By KRYSTA FAURIA
Associated Press

In its first two hours, "The Substance" is a well-made, entertaining movie. Writer-director Coralie Fargeat treats audiences to a heavy dose of biting social commentary on ageism and sexism in Hollywood, with a spoonful of sugar- and sparkle-doused body horror.

But the film's deliciously unhinged, blood-soaked and inevitably polarizing third act is what makes it unforgettable.

What begins as a dread-inducing but still relatively palatable sci-fi flick spirals deeper into absurdism and violence, eventually erupting — quite literally — into a full-blown monster movie. Let the viewer decide who the monster is.

Fargeat — who won best screenplay at this year's Cannes Film Festival — has been vocal about her reverence for "The Fly" director David Cronenberg, and fans of the godfather of body horror will see his unmistakable influence. But "The Substance" is also wholly unique and benefits from Fargeat's perspective, which, according to the French filmmaker, has involved extensive grappling with her own relationship to her body and society's scrutiny.

"The Substance" tells the story of Elisabeth Sparkle, a famed aerobics instructor with a televised show, played by a powerfully vulnerable Demi Moore. Sparkle is fired on her 50th birthday by a ruthless executive — a perfectly cast Dennis Quaid, who nails sleazy and gross.

Feeling rejected by a town that once loved her and despairing over her bygone star power, Sparkle learns from a handsome young nurse about a black-market drug that promises to create a "younger, more beautiful, more perfect" version of its user. Though she initially tosses the phone number in the trash, she soon fishes it out in a desperate panic and places an order.

The one rule to follow is that Sparkle and her better self (Margaret Qualley) must trade places every seven days. So for one week at a time, she is forced again to live as her 50-year-old self. But the allure of youth and a made-for-TV butt proves too strong to resist. What's the worst that can happen if she squeezes an extra day or two in?

Benjamin Kracun's cinematography, particularly his low-angle shots and close-ups reminiscent of David Lynch's movies — another filmmaker Fargeat credits as having influenced her as a director — expertly capture the omnipresent claustrophobia and anxiety that exist even while Sparkle is in the body of her better self.

Also evocative of Lynch is Fargeat's compelling construction — between the fashion, architecture, aerobics and highly advanced cell-replicating drugs — of a kind of atemporal world.

Given that body horror has been all the rage at festivals — with Julia Ducournau's "Titane" and Cronenberg's "Crimes of the Future" also premiering at Cannes in recent years — it could be easy to write this movie off as capitalizing on the zeitgeist.

But "The Substance" resists being lost in that shuffle.

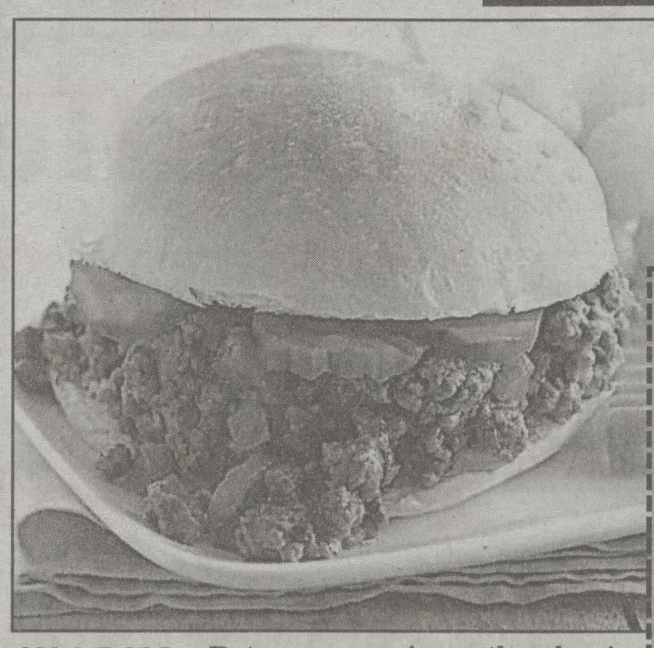
What is perhaps most impressive is the fact that, in its 140-minute runtime, the movie never feels like it's dragging on. Fargeat ups the ante until the last second of the film, with a jaw-droppingly deranged final scene that is still somehow poignant.

If there's a critique to be made about the film, it's that the satire and caricatures are a bit heavy-handed, with most of the male characters being not-so-subtle misogynists. But that overkill is part of what makes it so much fun.

"The Substance," a Mubi release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association for strong bloody violent content, gore, graphic nudity and language. Running time: 140 minutes. Three and a half stars out of four.

HomeNewsHere RECIPE

SASSY SLOPPY JOES



ON A ROLL - Put a sassy spin on the classic Sloppy Joe, a childhood comfort food favorite!

STEPS

1. Cook beef and onion in 10-inch skillet over medium heat 8 to 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, until beef is brown; drain. Stir in remaining ingredients except buns.

2. Cover and cook over low heat 10 to 15 minutes or just until vegetables are tender. Fill buns with mixture.

EXPERT TIPS

• You can make these sandwiches less sloppy by serving them in pita breads instead of the hamburger buns!

• It's hard to top Sloppy Joes, but a few toppings that taste great on them are cheese, pickle slices and sliced olives.

NUTRITION

290 Calories
13 g Total Fat
18 g Protein
28 g Total Carbohydrate

INGREDIENTS:

• 1 pound lean ground beef
• 1 medium onion, chopped (1/2 cup)
• 1/3 cup chopped celery stalk
• 1/3 cup chopped green bell pepper
• 1/3 cup ketchup
• 1/4 cup water
• 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
• 1/2 teaspoon salt
• 1/8 teaspoon red pepper sauce
• 6 hamburger buns, split and toasted

• DEMOULAS

FROM B-1

"It is a person's moral obligation and social responsibility to protect a culture which proves an honorable and dignified place to work."

This quote is the profile picture of the now defunct Save Market Basket Facebook Page.

Though the war was won, efforts have been made to document, remember, and celebrate what happened whether it's through the "Dear Market Basket" song made for the protest, countless articles, and more.

One of these efforts is a documentary made about the fight, titled "We the People: The Market Basket Effect," still available to purchase and view. The film's description on Amazon is as follows:

"The story behind the epic six-week boycott of the Massachusetts-based Market Basket supermarket chain in the summer of 2014: when beloved CEO Arthur T. Demoulas is deposed by his cousin, majority shareholder Arthur S. Demoulas, Market Basket's 25,000 employees and millions of supportive customers successfully enforce a boycott of the 71-store regional chain, leading to a leveraged buyout of the company, the reinstatement of Artie T., and a victory for democracy."

Market Basket's social media page released short interview videos this summer reflecting on the event.

The videos featured several employees recounting their memories of the boycott. One of these interviewees was quoted as saying: "You bleed Market Basket red. There's a sense of pride and camaraderie in the company and we all feel it." - Tim Shea, 25 years of service.

On the company's history timeline on their website, Market Basket describes the protests as "an unprecedented summer that draws worldwide attention to Market Basket, where associates, customers, and vendors support a seven-week boycott. Over 25,000 associates and millions of customers united to keep management in place and carry on Telemachus' (founder) legacy of loyalty, discipline, respect, fairness, and honesty. Justice ultimately prevails."

Ten years later, the company is still celebrating. As reported by CBS News, Demoulas sent bonus checks to all of its employees as a thank you. He sent the following letter:

"Dear valued associate:

"With the summer winding down and Labor Day approaching, I would like to thank each and every one of you for continually meeting the day-to-day challenges of our business and always raising the standard in an effort to make our team and company better. By consistently focusing and supporting the meaning of our long-standing "More for Your Dollar" slogan (quality products - fresh perishables - variety - fair pricing - clean stores - with sincere old-fashioned service) which has proven to gain the confidence and loyalty of our 2.5 million and growing customers per week, we continue on our upward trajectory.

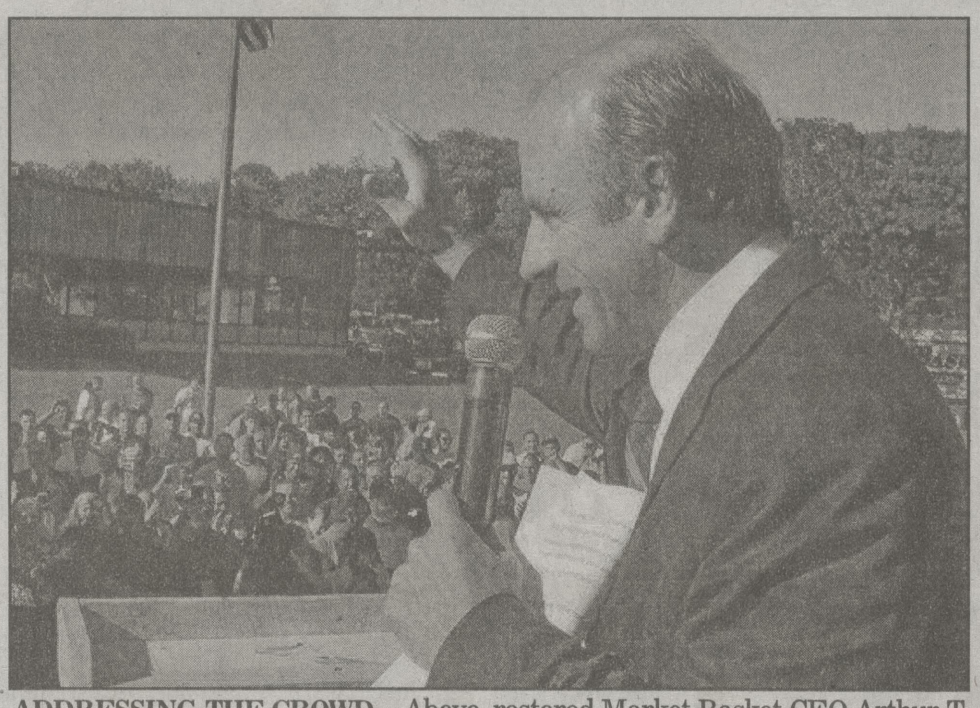
"The hallmark of our company is people taking care of people with dignity and respect. As we timely reflect on ten years ago and the extraordinary events of 2014, it was our customers, associates and business partners who stood together to protect the culture of our company.

As stated upon our return on Aug. 28, 2014: 'In this organization, here at Market Basket, everyone is special. You have demonstrated that everyone here has a purpose. You have demonstrated that everyone has meaning. And no one person is better or more important than another. And no one person holds the position of privilege. Whether it's a full timer, or a part timer, whether it's a sacker or a cashier, or a grocery clerk, or a truck driver, or a warehouse selector, a store manager, a supervisor, a customer, a vendor or a CEO, we are all equal. We are all equal and by working together and only together do we succeed.' With gratitude for all you do, please find a bonus check which is earned by you every single day.

"Wishing you and your family continued good health and continued success.

"Sincerely,
Arthur T. Demoulas.
Demoulas Super Markets Inc."

As said on the company's website, "Justice Ultimately Prevails," thanks to the tireless efforts of the employees of Market Basket, and their dedication to keeping a positive company culture and practice for customers and each other through advocating for correct leadership.



ADDRESSING THE CROWD - Above, restored Market Basket CEO Arthur T. Demoulas speaks to employees at company headquarters, Thursday, Aug. 28, 2014, in Tewksbury, as he returned to work after reaching an agreement to buy the company. Below, there were empty shelves as workers refused to work, and customers stopped shopping at the stores after he was ousted in June. (AP File Photos)

— Open House on Thursday, October 10th at 6 p.m. —

New tween space opens at Reading Public Library

READING — After months of work, Reading Public Library is excited to launch a new space for kids in grades 4-7. The area features a woodland mural with birds and animals, tree-shaped bookshelves, and comfy seating options, including rocking chairs.

The best part? Tweens helped design it! They gave ideas about what they wanted in the space and even helped pick out books.

Other inviting features include:

- A whiteboard for drawing or homework
- Grass-like stools for sitting
- A variety of sensory surfaces
- Books picked especially for tweens

Please join us on Thursday, October 10, at 6:00 p.m. for a ribbon cutting to celebrate this wonderful new space.

Why Tweens?

Tween development is crucial as it marks a key transition between childhood and adolescence. From ages 9-12, young people start to form their identities. This stage is vital for developing critical social skills. These include making friends, navigating peer relationships, and building empathy. Positive experiences in the tween years can boost self-esteem and confidence. They can also impact future development and are a key foundation for long-term success and well-being.

The Reading Public Library wishes to thank muralist James Weinberg, designer Martin Sorger, furnishing company Norvanivel, our children's librarians, who led the project, and the generous support of Helen A. Nigro Foundation.

NEW TWEEN SPACE AT THE READING PUBLIC LIBRARY

— Thursday and Friday, October 10th and 11th —

Regent Theatre presents the world premiere of 'Beasties', a Sci-Fi Rock Opera for all ages

Get ready for an "out-of-this-world experience" at Arlington's Showplace of Entertainment that's being brought to life just in time for the indoor concert season by producer/musician Gary Sohmer's of Antiques Roadshow and the Northeast Comic Con and Collectibles Extravaganza.

Join us for the world premiere of Beasties, A Sci-Fi Rock Opera that could "blow your mind" in a moment!

Guests will be immersed in a theatrical concert experience that's unlike any other theatrical concert goers have ever seen. Beasties promises to entertain, thrill, amuse and leave audiences wanting more.

With eighteen (18) dynamic songs performed by an All-Star cast, a story is told of a fictional alien encounter at a concert in Central Park. Trying to save the Earth from both climate destruction and corporate political corruption makes for an exciting and fast-paced backdrop to this locally produced, directed and performed production.

Beasties developed a new form of entertainment which is live, immersive, sci-fi graphic and characterized by visual storytelling combined with rockin' rollin' musical theatre.

The stars... Barrence Whitfield (Frontman for Barrence Whitfield & the Savages,) Mach Bell (Lead singer of The Joe Perry Project and Thundertrain,) the talented singer-songwriter, Liz Proteau, Lowell's own actor, singer, theatrical producer, and playwright, Jerry Bisantz, talented multi-instrumentalist musician BIll Holloman Jr. (Chic, Gatlin Brothers, Danny Gatton) and Cliff Goodwin (Joe Cocker, Robert Palmer,) are accompanied by a deeply talented choral back-up and an accomplished rock 'n' roll band.

The audience will cheer for the good vs evil forces as the fate of the planet is at stake. The crowd will ponder questions like, 'where does the Impulse for change come from' while being aware that there are good and bad Beasties within us all.

A quick preview tells us that Voice is the lead singer of a rock band. Grā, a retired singer, lands the "job of a lifetime" working as stage manager for newly successful musicians who are performing a monumental free concert in New York City's Central Park.

However, in a bizarre turn of events, Grā becomes controlled by an alien, Impulse, and a corrupt politician, Dick T. Raitor, who unexpectedly attempts to take over the show. As surprises and chaos ensue, Voice, Grā, Impulse, and the band must rally humanity and their "Beasties" to save the planet.

Will the power of music and unity be enough to succeed?

The World Premiere Performance is on Thursday, October 10th at 7:00 pm with doors at 6:00 pm while a reprise performance will follow on Friday October 11th at 7:30 pm with doors at 6:30 pm.

IT'S SHOWTIME - Musician Barrence Whitfield (frontman for Barrence Whitfield & the Savages), left, and producer/musician Gary Sohmers are ready to treat audiences to Beasties, A Sci-Fi Rock Opera, at the Regent Theatre. (Courtesy Photo)

The rock opera will be performed in two acts, with an intermission. Beer and wine will be available for sale to those of age.

The Regent Theatre "Arlington's Show Place of Entertainment" since 1916 is located on 7 Medford Street in Arlington, Massachusetts—minutes from Cambridge, Boston, and Routes 2 and 95.

DATES: Thursday and Friday, October 10th and 11th.

TIME: 7:00 pm and 7:30 pm (respectively) with doors opening one hour prior to showtime.

For tickets and more information visit https://regenttheatre.com or call Regent Theatew at 781-646-4849.

• Real Estate Transfers •

BURLINGTON

1 Brantwood Ln was sold to Chu, Marcus and Im, Christie by S J Peacock Builders Inc for $1,709,000 on 09/12/24

32 Skelton Rd was sold to Kang, Dongin and Kang, Shinyoung by Cincotta, Peter and Cincotta, Sarah for $825,000 on 09/13/24

121-A Wilmington Rd was sold to Jazzakallah Khair RET and Patel, Mohammad by Ridgley William Est and Ridgley, Kristen for $645,000 on 09/10/24

LYNNFIELD

12 Ivanhoe Dr was sold to Alam, Mohammad and Khalil, Kosar A by Zepaj Development LLC for $955,000 on 09/13/24

35 Perry Ave was sold to Larochelle, Valerie and Moylan, Joseph by Loika, Ruth M and Sentas, John for $831,000 on 09/13/24

NORTH READING

42 Haverhill St was sold to Mei, Judy J and Huang, Jerry J by Frank Goddard Jr Ft and Goddard, James L for $633,000 on 09/10/24

105 North St was sold to Boyle, April by Keimach RET and Keimach, Bradley E for $625,000 on 09/12/24

READING

45 Chute St was sold to Lindberg, Maya and Beougher, Wesley A by Randy Lester Burnham RET and Burnham, Randy L for $927,000 on 09/13/24

108 Franklin St was sold to Else, Joshua D and Else, Anna H by Marshall, Rosemary E for $1,510,000 on 09/09/24

371 Franklin St was sold to Wu, Bin and Wu, Shufen by Delaney 3rd, John F and Delaney, Mary M for $680,000 on 09/13/24

72 Hartshorn St was sold to Oconnell 4th, Daniel J and Oconnell, Alexandra P by Puig, Kristin and Puig, Gregory for $935,000 on 09/12/24

4 Lilah Ln was sold to Tammaro, David and Tammaro, Kristin by Richardson, Craig E and Richardson, Melinda J for $1,300,000 on 09/09/24

605 Summer Ave #4-414 was sold to Battista, Mark A by Leighton, Tyler J for $412,000 on 09/12/24

40 Village St was sold to Akter, Asma and Parvej, Sohel by Morello, Amy and Pelley, Kevin for $570,000 on 09/13/24

STONEHAM

11 Chestnut St was sold to Forlano, Jaclene A and Perry, Michael M by Pruett, David B for $950,000 on 09/13/24

179 Franklin St #4 was sold to Riopelle, Joshua A by Giammarco, Domenico for $190,000 on 09/13/24

124 Green St was sold to Castellano, James V by Loftus 3rd, John T for $610,000 on 09/11/24

126 Green St was sold to Castellano, James V by Loftus 3rd, John T for $610,000 on 09/11/24

4 Laurie Ln was sold to Cubi, Angelo I and Costa, Hilda Y by Obrien, Laura for $1,445,000 on 09/13/24

563 Main St was sold to Holden, Jeannine by Bergonzi Ft and Bergonzi, Marianne for $730,000 on 09/09/24

Summit Rd (rear) was sold to Orchard Point Dev LLC by Treacy Builders Inc for $50,000 on 09/12/24

TEWKSBURY

14 Greenhalge St was sold to Balboni, Vincent M by Proctor, Shirley for $30,000 on 09/12/24

153 Heritage Dr #153 was sold to Lombardo, Antonino by Bendel, Daniel and Krishnan, Harshitha for $485,000 on 09/11/24

41 Meredith Rd was sold to Johnson, Gregory A and Johnson, Linda J by King, Marcia A for $750,000 on 09/12/24

48 Patrick Rd #48 was sold to Priest, Michael F and Priest, Daniel P by Desantis, Jacob W for $470,000 on 09/11/24

60 Pringle St was sold to Robichaud, Dylan J and Robichaud, Dana M by Robichaud, James J for $25,000 on 09/11/24

91 Ronald Dr was sold to Calouro, Jeffrey and Ferreira, Sonia J by Payne, Donald J and Payne, Lori J for $930,000 on 09/13/24

5 Woodland Dr was sold to Dearborn, Daniel by Bolduc, Brian and Populin, Laura for $1,200,000 on 09/13/24

WAKEFIELD

4 Rockland St was sold to Dse Construction Inc by Dalleva, Ralph and Dalleva, Rosanne for $950,000 on 09/13/24

410 Salem St #1301 was sold to Marshall, Rosemary by Provost Ft and Provost, Michael E for $690,000 on 09/09/24

WILMINGTON

29-R Clark St was sold to Winn, Justin and Lorusso, Damiana R by Cain 2016 T and Dawe, Kathleen A for $765,000 on 09/13/24

8 Massachusetts Ave was sold to 8 Mass Ave LLC by Farrell Paul F Est and Merrill, Amy J for $350,000 on 09/12/24

8-A Massachusetts Ave was sold to 8 Mass Ave LLC by Farrell Paul F Est and Merrill, Amy J for $350,000 on 09/12/24

353 Middlesex Ave was sold to Stag Industrial Hldg LLC by Atlantic Oliver 353 Midd for $12,180,000 on 09/13/24

45 Park St was sold to De Souza, Rafaella P by Constance M Rando Lt and Goodwin, Janice M for $585,000 on 09/12/24

195 Salem St #1301 was sold to Kosman, Isabelle by Winant, Joan R for $630,000 on 09/13/24

159 Shawsheen Ave was sold to Constitution Prop LLC by Mcgrath, Philip J for $420,000 on 09/12/24

5 Towpath Dr was sold to Mcinerney, Denis J by Paulette Condell RET and Condell, Michael for $1,285,000 on 09/10/24

100 Woburn St was sold to Schrimpf, William by Tendyke, Keith and Tendyke, Karen for $645,000 on 09/13/24

WINCHESTER

200 Swanton St #502 was sold to Zarringhalam, Ali and Gafuri, Neshe by Pareene, Daniel for $295,000 on 09/09/24

10 Taft Dr was sold to Zhuang, Xiang and Wang, Yang by Huang, Mei and Huang, Walter for $1,805,000 on 09/13/24

WOBURN

12 Goodwin Dr #42 was sold to Nguyen, Chau T by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $1,231,715 on 09/13/24

3 Goodwin Dr #49 was sold to Bonilla, Peter E and Kwon, Deborah Y by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $1,207,180 on 09/13/24

Highland Ave #2101 was sold to Mclean Hld T and Mclean, Andrew D by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $764,999 on 09/09/24

Highland Ave #2108 was sold to Megna Ft and Megna, Alice C by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $736,944 on 09/10/24

Highland Ave #2206 was sold to Teng, Changmin and Shi, Danni by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $758,485 on 09/09/24

1001 Main St #34 was sold to Dsouza, Merlyn by Yos Jerrold Moore Est and Yos, David L for $291,500 on 09/13/24

1011 Main St #15 was sold to Brzykcy, Pawel K by Gilman, Stephen P for $280,000 on 09/09/24

940-R Main St was sold to Langone, Michael G by Langone Michael J Est and Langone, Michael G for $510,000 on 09/11/24

8 Morgan Way #8 was sold to Hsieh, Yi-Fang by West Woburn Dev Corp for $764,900 on 09/11/24

61 Mount Pleasant St was sold to 61 Mt Pleasant St Cbc LLC by Frost, Carol A for $380,000 on 09/10/24

180 New Boston St was sold to Stag Industrial Hldg LLC by Atlantic Oliver 180 New for $19,535,000 on 09/13/24

15 Prospect St #3 was sold to Estevez, Adriana by Spang, Joseph M and Alvarez, Louisa for $365,000 on 09/13/24

4 Stratton Dr #106 was sold to Lay, Bunchanna by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $725,275 on 09/13/24

4 Stratton Dr #304 was sold to Liao, Xianting by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $829,995 on 09/13/24

4 Stratton Dr #207 was sold to Manoukian, Ohan by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $624,390 on 09/11/24

4 Stratton Dr #205 was sold to Satija, Surendra M and Satija, Alka by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $909,195 on 09/12/24

1 Woods Hill Cir was sold to Widdy-Hercule, Emile L by Resendes Irt and Resendes, Silvino M for $1,210,000 on 09/10/24

Tewksbury Police Log

Female arrested for alleged shoplifting

Monday, September 23

11:42 a.m. - An unwanted male party rode a possibly stolen bike in the parking lot at Wynn Middle School. Police sent. Officer checked the area, but the party was gone on arrival.

3:05 p.m. - Caller reported a shoplifter at Walmart with no ID. Female party was in the office and complying. Sarah Howard Buckley, 31, of 11 Summer St. in Bradford, was arrested and charged with shoplifting by concealing and a warrant for unregistered motor vehicle.

9:48 p.m. - A 911 caller reported vehicle was driving past the opposite side of the roadway at Andover Street and Fiske Street. Caller reported the vehicle took a left at the street by the Baptist Church. Police sent and there was a verbal warning.

10:04 p.m. - Caller requested a check of Ames Hill Drive because a male party tried to enter his apartment and he was currently in Connecticut. Caller does not want officers to knock on his door as his significant other was asleep in the apartment. Police sent, but gone on arrival.

Tuesday, September 24

2:09 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious suitcase or briefcase in the woods at Whipple Road and Windsor Drive. Police sent. They stated suitcase was empty.

3:23 p.m. - Caller reported a motor vehicle parked in the lot of Atlas Insurance in a non-parking spot for the past hour. Caller reported it had lights all around the vehicle and calling party found it odd. Police sent. Officer checked the area. Its white flashing and the vehicle was unoccupied.

5:32 p.m. - A suspicious motor vehicle was outside of cheerleading practice at North Street School. Police sent. The vehicle left the area.

8:25 p.m. - Caller reported a seagull was in the parking lot choking. Police sent. Seagull had expired of natural causes. Animal Control sent to pick it up.

Wednesday, September 25

4:53 a.m. - Caller stated a grayish color sedan possibly Chevy passed over the double yellow line heading toward Andover on East Street. Police sent. Officer checked the area, but gone on arrival.

7:41 a.m. - Caller heard loud explosion in the area of Rogers Street. Police sent. National Grid was notified.

8:27 a.m. - Manager at Stadium Plaza reported individuals trespassing in the woods. They were looking to have the parties removed who were currently having a fire. Police sent. The party was asked by manager to leave and did not wish to trespass party at this time.

5:06 p.m. - Manager at Blaire House reported a resident's assault and battery whom both have dementia and reside in the nursing home side. Police sent and officer filed a report.

7:36 p.m. - Manager at Market Basket south reported male party being inappropriate and used foul language. It could be a disability, but would like an officer to respond. Police sent. No threats were made. No crime was occurring.

Thursday, September 26

8:58 a.m. - Manager called and stated there was a suspicious vehicle parked in the lot for 20 minutes at Lowell 5. Police sent. Officer spoke to caller and he couldn't provide any details other than the car being parked in that spot. Party was gone on arrival.

10:31 p.m. - A 911 caller reported a male party knocked on the door at Mitchell G Drive. The caller spoke to the male through the window. He asked if he could come inside to charge his phone. Then, he was chased by someone. Police sent. Negative results on Motel G Drive and surrounding streets. Male party was gone on arrival.

Friday, September 27

11:47 am - Police out at Motel 6 attempting to serve a warrant. Joseph Sideman, 40, of 1199 Hildreth St. in Dracut, was arrested and charged with a warrant for larceny of motor vehicle in the Brockton district.

12:38 p.m. - Police out at Home Depot with two females for an attempted shoplifting. Officer filed a report.

4:56 p.m. - Officer reported a group of juveniles were doing donuts in the parking lot near Dollar Tree. Prior to dispatching the call, the vehicle left the lot and headed into Wilmington.

Saturday, September 28

3:10 a.m. - Caller from Marston Street stated an alarm had been sounding in the area for the past 15 minutes and had been shut off. Caller unsure what type of alarm or what address it was coming from. Then, the alarm went off again and caller reported it sounds like a home alarm, the house near Tesla batteries. Police sent. This was the audible alarm from Jimbos that could be heard from over there.

2:56 p.m. - A 911 caller reported a disturbance in the gravel parking lot at Livingston Street Park. Parents fought, verbal at this time. Three males in their 40s involved. Caller left the scene while on call. Police sent. They had been told the parties had left the area after the small verbal argument.

6:53 p.m. - Caller reported a blue Toyota hatchback weaving in and out at McDonalds with the lights off. Headed toward Lowell. Lowell Police Department was notified.

6:54 p.m. - Caller reported panhandler was asked to leave the premises earlier today at Cumberland Farms and they refused to leave. Police sent. They spoke to the male and he was leaving the property.

Sunday, September 29

2:42 a.m. - Caller reported he heard a woman scream at Finn Street and then three "loud strikes" that could have been someone being hit with an unknown object. After that he heard footsteps and twigs breaking. No visual, he believed it could have occurred on South Street or State Street. Police sent and checked the area. The sound might possibly be a Halloween decorations in the area.

4:32 a.m. - Caller reported someone threw nails around his truck at Main Street. He was standing outside of his truck and a white Dodge Ram with cap. Police sent. Nobody threw nails at the male party. He came out of the gas station and there was broken glass.

6:19 p.m. - Caller reported a tall skinny white male was breaking into his vehicle at Merrimack Meadows. The male party took off on a motorized scooter. Police sent. Officer filed a report.

9:34 p.m. - A 911 caller reported two male parties dressed in al black acting suspicious around a white vehicle at Walmart. Caller couldn't provide a license plate. Police sent and the parties checked out.

Wilmington Police Log

Boxford man arrested for alleged shoplifting

Friday, Sept. 20:

12:33 a.m.: A caller reported hearing an explosive noise, and believed it came from the Yentile Park area. Another citizen approached police, stating that the noise sounded louder than a firework and seemed to have come from the Butters Row area. However, police could find no evidence of what caused the noise.

1:43 p.m.: A white 2021 Toyota Rav4 and a gray 2008 Toyota 4Runner were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Ballardvale Street. The caller requested an ambulance.

6:23 p.m.: Pierre Lovensky of 249 School St., in Lowell, was issued a summons for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and speeding in violation of special regulations. This followed a stop of his black 2012 Nissan Rogue on Glen Road.

Saturday, Sept. 21:

2:12 p.m.: An employee at the Savers on Main Street reported an older hispanic man being hostile and refusing to leave. It turned out there was a disagreement over prices, but peace was restored and the man left.

4:36 p.m.: A caller at Triton Car Wash on Main Street reported that someone had damaged a bay earlier that day. Police confirmed damage to the equipment.

10:08 p.m.: A caller on Sheridan Road reported a dark-colored Toyota Camry sitting outside her house with a black man sitting inside, and was unsure why he was there. The man turned out to be a visiting hospice nurse to a nearby residence, and was taking notes for the visit.

Sunday, Sept. 22:

4:57 a.m.: A caller on Glen Road reported that his blue 2006 Nissan Murano rolled over. The caller, despite dispatch telling him otherwise, left the scene before police arrived due to needing to use the bathroom, but was found later

7:38 a.m.: A manager at the Burger King on Lowell Street reported that a customer was upset and became aggressive towards staff, described as a hispanic man wearing all black. Staff reported that the argument was verbal only, and that the man had left before police arrival.

8:04 a.m.: A caller at the North Intermediate School on Salem Street reported a man and a woman pushing a Target shopping cart in the parking lot, and looking at the doors of the school. However, due to a combination of nobody at loss prevention being on staff that day, and Target having an item in its possession being missing, the contents of the shopping cart were confiscated under suspicion of shoplifting until proof of purchase could be shown.

Monday, Sept. 23:

3:17 p.m.: A white 2025 Hyundai Kona and a blue 2024 Toyota Grand Highlander were involved in a motor vehicle accident near McKinnon's on Lowell Street, with the Hyundai grazing the rear fender of the Toyota, and the caller reporting that the other party involved was refusing to give out their information.

3:24 p.m.: A black 2012 Chevy Captiva, a gray 2008 Honda Accord, and a gray 2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Concord Street. No injuries were reported, and no airbags were deployed.

4:08 p.m.: Todd D Bullock of 209B Ipswich Road, in Boxford, was arrested for shoplifting by asportation. This followed loss prevention at the Target on Ballardvale Street reporting an active shoplifter, described as a white man wearing all black, concealing items.

Tuesday, Sept. 24:

7:30 a.m.: Glaucia Helena D Noguiera of 21 Royal Crest Dr., Apt. #10, in North Andover, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended or revoked registration, and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. This followed a stop of her black 2021 Nissan Rogue Sport on the Rt. 62 Hwy.

Wednesday, Sept. 25:

12:34 p.m.: A white 2023 Kia Sportage and a red 2018 Nissan Altima were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Middlesex Avenue. Police assisted with paperwork exchange.

2:09 p.m.: A caller reported his mother-in-law was involved in a motor vehicle accident at the MBTA parking lot on Main Street, where a gray 2018 Ford F150 rear-ended a gray 2024 Hyundai Palisade.

Thursday, Sept. 26:

4:12 a.m.: A white 2014 Ford F150 hit a tree on Ballardvale Street.

8:44 a.m.: Bank security at the Citizens Bank on Main Street reported that the ATM had been tampered with. However, after further review by bank security, they instead believed the ATM malfunctioned instead of being maliciously damaged.

7:33 p.m.: A black 2014 Acura ILX and a gray 2025 Hyundai Tucson were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Salem Street, with one of the vehicles rolling over. The occupant of the rolled-over vehicle was able to get out of the vehicle.

Healey-Driscoll Admin announces firefighter safety grant opportunity

STOW — The Healey-Driscoll Administration announced that up to $5 million in grant funding is available to support the purchase of firefighter turnout gear, fire suppression equipment, and related items through the FY25 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant program.

The competitive grant program, which is administered by the Executive Office of Public Safety & Security and the Department of Fire Services, reimburses local fire departments for the purchase of qualifying safety equipment. Departments of every city, town, fire district, and eligible state authority may apply for a grant. Maximum funding amounts are based on the size of the population the department serves.

"Massachusetts firefighters put everything on the line to protect their communities," said Public Safety & Security Secretary Terrence Reidy. "The Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant program helps make that dangerous job a little safer for them. From radios to rescue harnesses, every dollar goes toward protecting the people who protect us."

Tools, meters, personal protective equipment, communications devices, and other items are eligible for reimbursement through the program, which places an emphasis on helping departments meet the latest safety standards set by the National Fire Protection Association and Occupational Safety & Health Administration.

"Modern firefighters do much more than fight fires," said State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine. "They perform technical rescues, mitigate the release of hazardous materials, and treat traumatic injuries. Many of their day-to-day activities expose them to carcinogens and other health hazards. These grants give local fire departments the flexibility to purchase the safety equipment that will best serve their needs, from small rural towns to large urban areas. It's an investment in the safety of our firefighters and all our communities."

Applications for the FY25 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant program are being accepted through Oct. 17, 2024.

For more information, including eligibility requirements and conditions, fire chiefs and/or department grant managers should read the Notice of Funding Opportunity posted on the Department of Fire Services' website.

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Local students named to President's List at SNHU

MANCHESTER, NH — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the summer 2024 President's List. The summer terms run from May to August.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

- **Gia Gimilaro of Wilmington**
- **Barbara Tunai-Michels of Wilmington**
- **Angela Scolastico of Wilmington**
- **Paul Masareth of Tewksbury**
- **Gregg Bennett of Tewksbury**
- **Monica Pires of Tewksbury**

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit, accredited institution with a 92-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults.

Now serving more than 200,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH.

Recognized as one of the "Most Innovative" regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner.

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Wilmington SPORTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024

Wilmington's Nate Anderson gets ready to hit his first tee shot in a golf match Monday afternoon against Arlington at Hillview golf course. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

Wilmington High Roundup:

Golfers solid at league shootout

Wildcats second among Freedom Division squads

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

Last Thursday, three members of the Wilmington High golf team competed in the Middlesex League Shootout at Bear Hill Country Club.

Wilmington placed second in the Freedom Division. Nate Anderson and Ryan Archer shot 78's, and Roman Synnott shot an 80.

CROSS COUNTRY

Wilmington High cross country had a big meet with Burlington last week and finished with mixed results.

The girls beat the Red Devils 16-45 to improve to 2-1 while the boys lost a close race, dropping to 1-2.

Addy Hunt won for the girls in 21:07.6, one of seven Wildcats in the top 10.

Charlotte Kiley was second in 21:21.8, Kaitlyn Shackelford was third in 22:18.2, Bella Zaya was fourth in 23:40.3 and Cayley Israelson finished sixth in 24:16.1.

Katelyn LaPointe was seventh in 24:55.2 and Rebecca Hughes came in 10 th in 27:52.2.

XC traveled to Burlington on Tuesday for a ML meet. The girls ran very well and came away with the victory as they won by a score of 16-45. Here is how the Wildcats placed:

The WHS boys fell by a score of 24-31.

Gavin Dong was third in 17:07, Dean Ciampa was fourth in 17:13.7, Jake Cronin placed eighth in 17:53.4, David Dynan ended up nine in 18:10.7 and Cooper Holleran was 10 th in 18:17.1.

GIRLS SOCCER

The Wilmington High girls soccer team battled Wakefield to a 3-3 tie last week, moving the Wildcats to 3-3-2.

This week the team hosted Belmont on Tuesday and visits Tewksbury on Saturday.

The Wildcats are currently ranked No. 13 in the Div. 3 Power Rankings.

BOYS SOCCER

The Wilmington High boys soccer team continues to work hard.

After a 1-0 loss to Burlington, the Wildcats lost by a 6-0 score to Wakefield before a tight loss to Woburn, 3-1.

The Woburn match was 1-1 late in the game before Woburn scored two late goals to seal thevictory.

FIELD HOCKEY

The Wilmington High field hockey team had two games last week.

On Tuesday, the Wildcats hosted Wakefield and suffered a 2-0 loss, and on Thursday the girls traveled to Woburn for a close 1-0 loss.

The team plays Belmont and Bedford this week before playing in Tewksbury on Friday.

VOLLEYBALL

The Wilmington High volleyball team lost matches last week against Wakefield, Woburn and Shawsheen Tech.

The Wildcats will be back in action on Tuesday, Oct. 8 when they play at Reading.

CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: Wilmington cross country runner Gavin Dong heads to the finish line to take second place in a meet against Stoneham High School. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

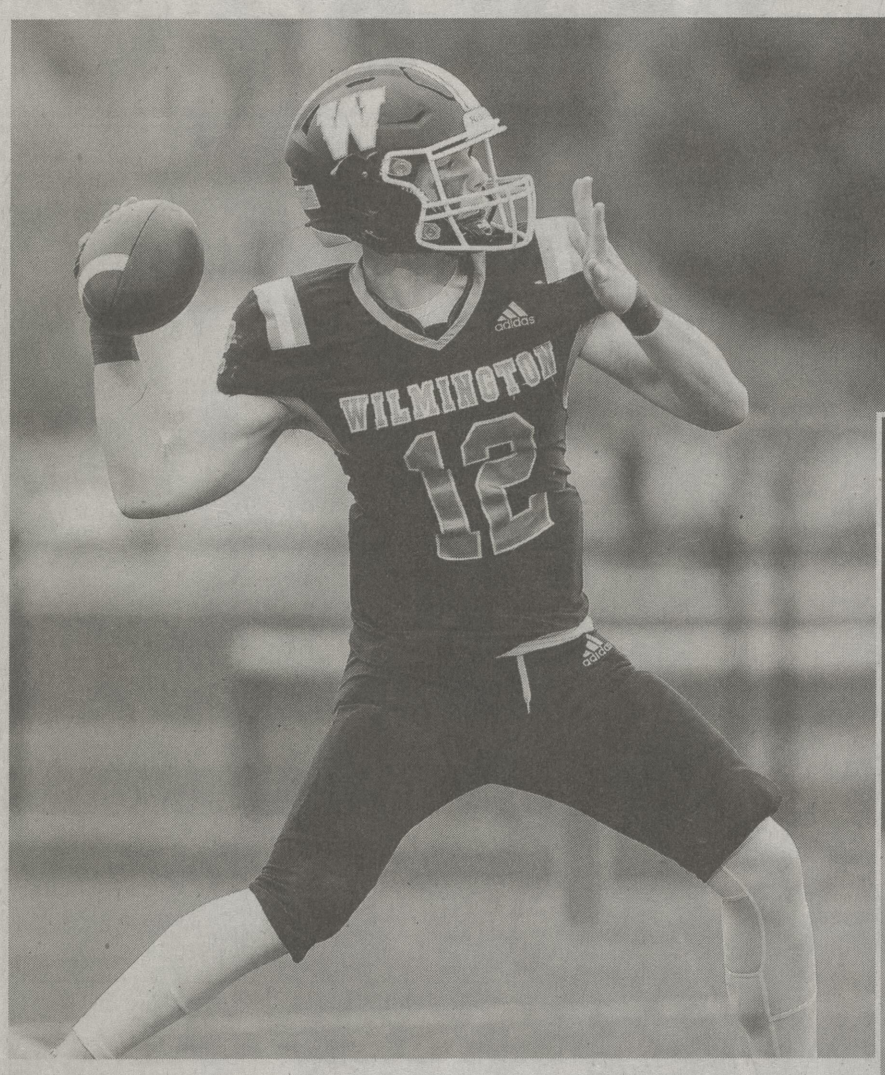
Wilmington cross country runner Kaitlyn Shackleford (left) leads a pack of runners during a meet against Stoneham High. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

Wilmington's Zack Guyette (left) protects the ball from Tewksbury's Austin Manneta during Saturday's varsity soccer game in Wilmington. Tewksbury netted a 1-0 victory over Wilmington. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

Sabrina Gray (right) of Wilmington bumps the ball over the net during a volleyball match with Winchester High School. Winchester opened their season with a 3-0 victory over Wilmington. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

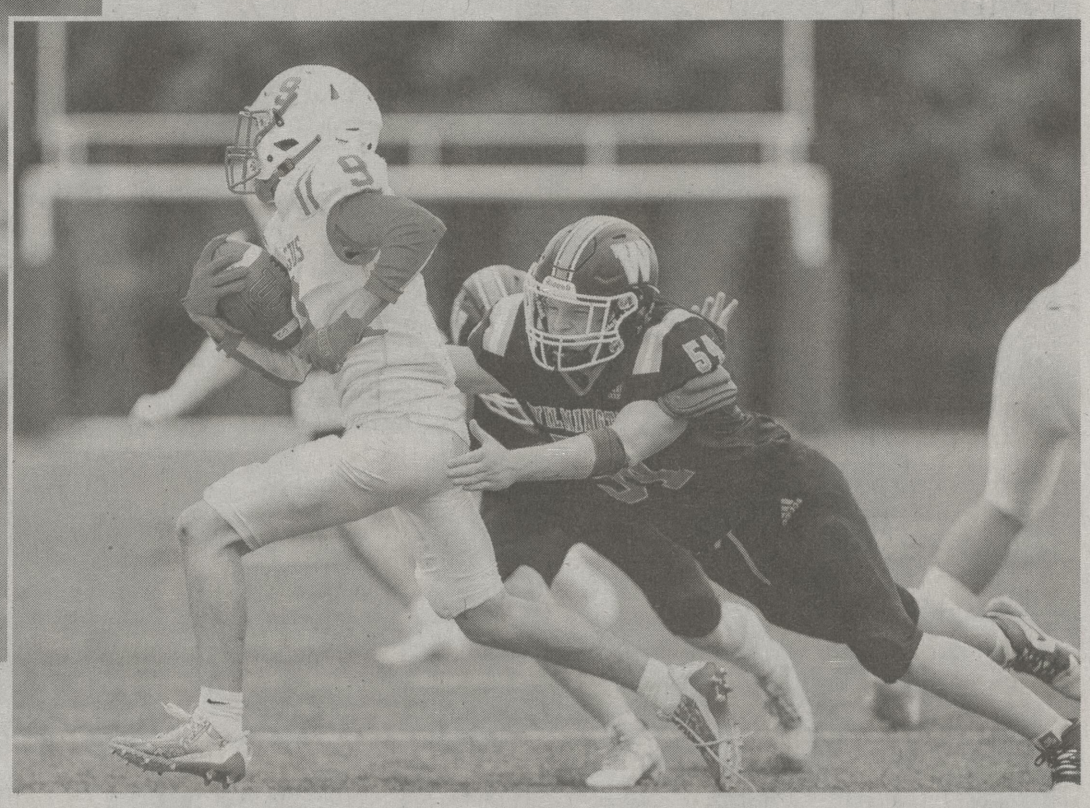
League campaign starts Friday

Wilmington football hosts Watertown in division opener



▲ Wilmington quarterback Mark Holleran drops back to pass during Friday night's football game in Wilmington. The Wildcats fell to Saugus 22-10.

(Credit Image: James Thomas)



By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

For all intents and purposes, the season starts Friday for the Wilmington High football team.

After a non-league slate that included games with Chelmsford, Saugus, Bishop Fenwick and North Reading, the Wildcats open the Middlesex League's Freedom Division campaign with a home game against Watertown at 6 p.m. this Friday.

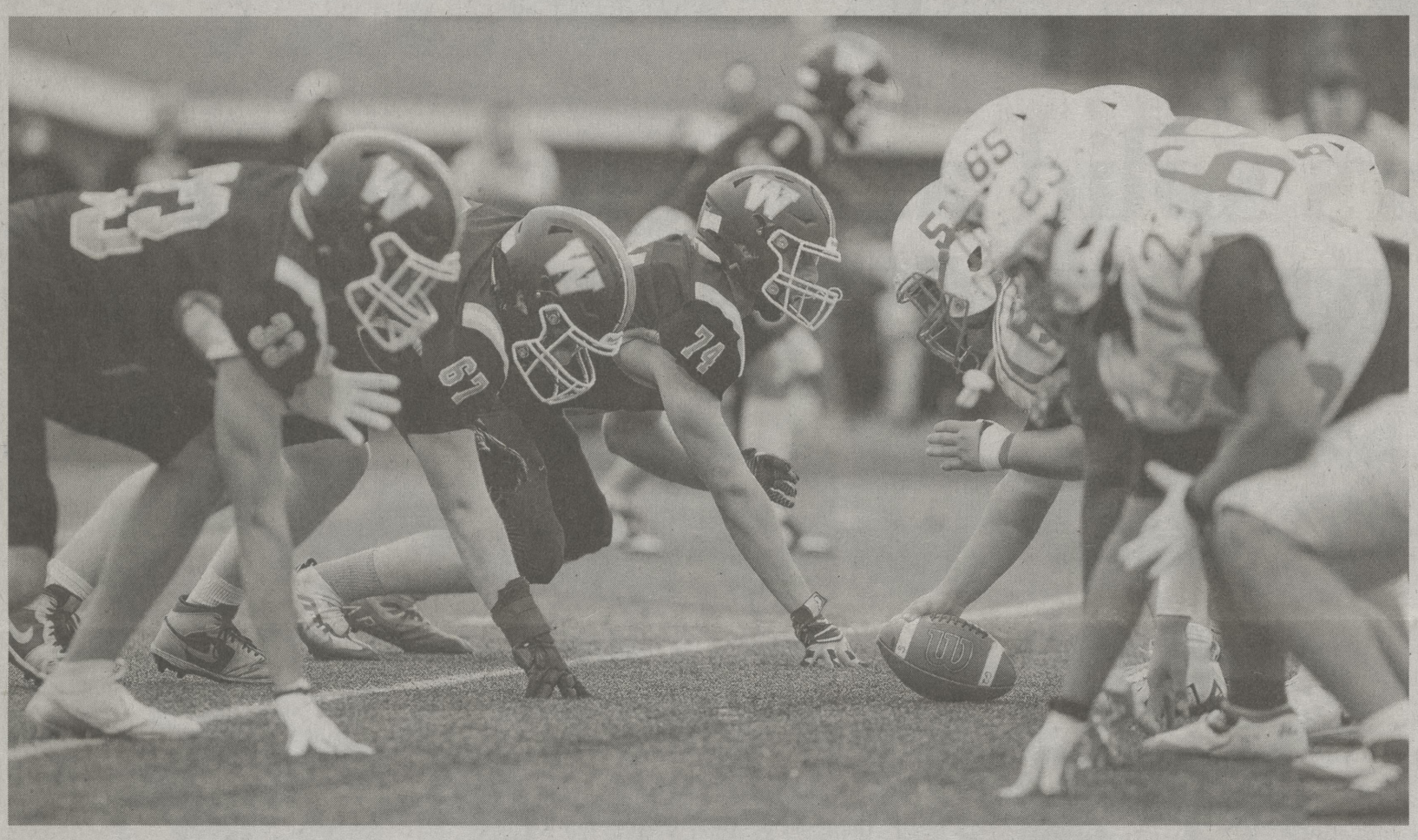
Last week, the Wildcats lost to Fenwick by a 42-6 score, dropping WHS to 0-3.

Fenwick led 7-0 after one quarter and 28-0 at halftime.

Wilmington scored its lone touchdown in the fourth quarter on a 15-yard run by Gus Lambert.

The Wildcats, with several players out with injuries, had trouble staying with Fenwick.

After Watertown, Wilmington has an Oct. 10 game in Burlington, an Oct. 18 home game with Stoneham before road trips to Wakefield and Melrose on Oct. 25 and Nov. 1.



▲ Wilmington's Timmy Watson makes a diving tackle attempt on Ryan Shea of Saugus during Friday night's football game in Wilmington. The Wildcats fell to Saugus 22-10.

(Credit Image: James Thomas)

◀ The Wilmington defense lines up against Saugus during Friday night's football game in Wilmington. The Wildcats fell to Saugus 22-10.

(Credit Image: James Thomas)

▲ The Rams take to the field before Friday's game.

(Photo by Doug Hastings)

Another big win for Rams

Shawsheen football blasts Norwood, remains undefeated

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Shawsheen Tech football team erupted for 26 second-quarter points on the way to a 40-6 victory over visiting Norwood on Friday night at Shawsheen.

The Rams improved to 4-0 with the non-league win and host Wayland next Friday night at 7 p.m. in what promises to be Shawsheen's stiffest test to date this fall.

Against Norwood, the Rams were led by the reliable hands and speedy legs of junior Dyllon Pratt, who put together quite a performance.

Pratt finished with six catches for 169 yards and three touchdowns on offense along with an interception that ended Norwood's first drive of the evening.

"The boys came to play tonight, they really did," said Shawsheen coach Al Costabile. "I thought my coaches did a tremendous job of preparing them all week long. We had real good practices and the boys really brought it tonight."

After Pratt's interception, Shawsheen used up the rest of the first quarter and scored on the first play of the second when senior quarterback Sid Tildsley hit Pratt with a 25-yard touchdown pass. Game officials threw a flag for defensive pass interference on the play, but Pratt caught the ball anyway.

"He's a tremendous receiver," Costabile said. "He has a phenomenal burst of speed. He has great eye-hand-coordination and not everybody has that. Sid (Tildsley) is a great quarterback, but he also has some great weapons and I'm sure he'd be the first to tell you that."

Jake Banda also sparked the drive with five carries for 29 yards.

The drive covered 86 yards in 16 plays.

Senior Jack Finn's extra point was blocked, but the Rams led 6-0.

After sacks by Banda and junior James Tildsley forced a punt to end the second drive for the Mustangs, Sid Tildsley hit Pratt with another touchdown pass, this one for 49 yards that saw Pratt catch a short pass and then simply sprint through the Norwood defense.

Finn's kick made it 13-0.

"We're getting better," Costabile said. "We're doing more things well in a consistent manner. We have to continue to do that each week. It's big month of October coming up, it's a big month for league games and for momentum going into the playoffs."

Before halftime, Banda scored on a 3-yard run and Pratt caught a 45-yard touchdown pass for a 26-0 advantage at intermission. Pratt had a 40-yard punt return to set up Banda's trip to the end zone.

Shawsheen's defense, meanwhile, was stifling.

After a 25-yard passing play from quarterback Caden Sheehan to Drew Bartucca, the Mustangs didn't accomplish much else.

Norwood's second and third possessions ended after three plays each with Ryan Jamieson adding a sack for Shawsheen.

James Tildsley had another sack just before halftime, his fourth tackle for a loss in the first two quarters.

Landon Benoit added a pair of nice tackles on kickoff returns for Shawsheen.

In the third quarter, a 31-yard catch by Pratt set up a 2-yard touchdown toss from Sid Tildsley to senior Brayton Carbone and a fumble recovery by junior Eric Banda led to a 1-yard touchdown run by senior Zack Timmons for a 40-0 lead for the Rams.

The reception by Pratt initially looked like it might be intercepted before the junior wideout Norwood scored on the final play of the third when Sam Larkee caught a 31-yard touchdown pass from Jack Dwyer.

Down the stretch, junior Adam Caruso played quarterback for the fourth quarter while senior Trent Wedge and junior Shane O'Neill saw carries out of the backfield.

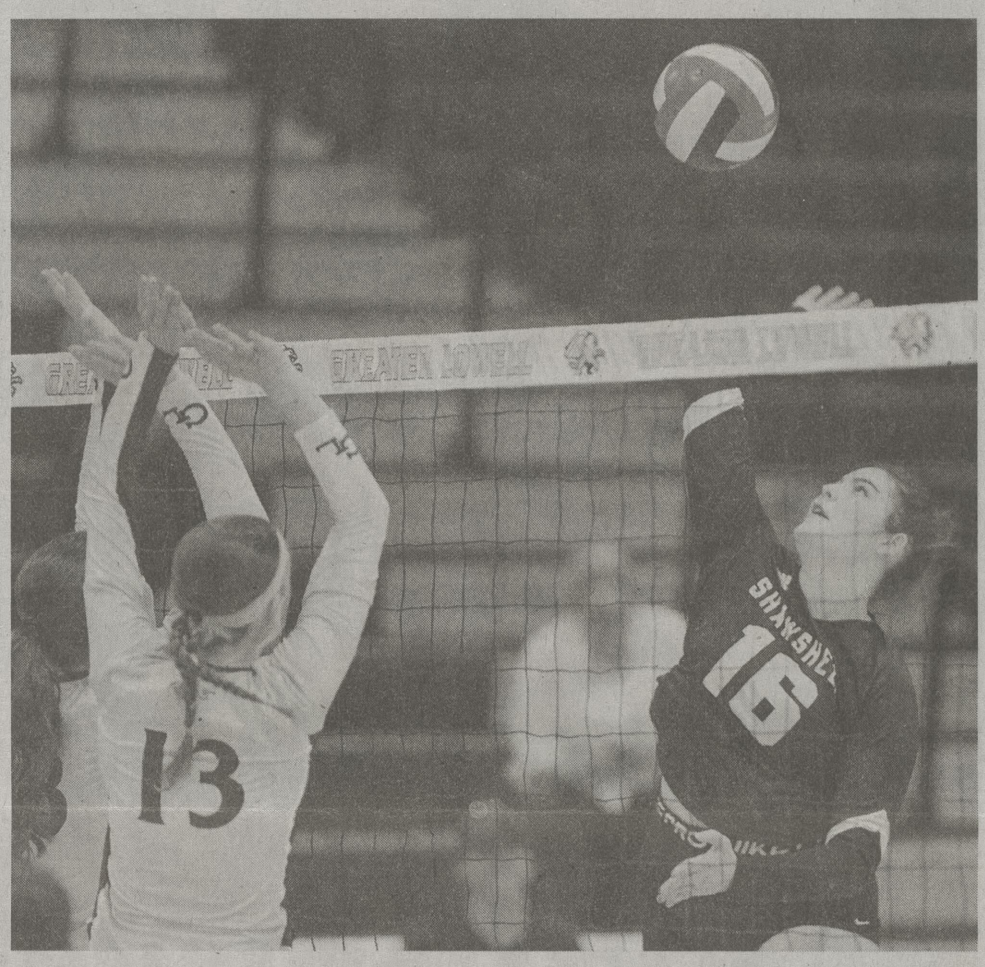
"The defense was great," said Costabile after his team chased quarterback Caden Sheehan from the game. "They did a great job of stopping the run and putting pressure on their quarterback."

▲ The Shawsheen Tech volleyball team celebrates after winning the first two sets against Greater Lowell Tech during Tuesday's volleyball game in Tyngsboro. Shawsheen was a 3-0 winner and remains undefeated on the season. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

Shawsheen Tech Roundup:

Volleyball makes it a perfect 10

Rams sweep Wilmington to remain undefeated



▲ Francesca Reardon (16) of Shawsheen Tech spikes the ball over the net as Addison Carbone (left) and Cheyenne Fuller of Greater Lowell Tech attempt to block during Tuesday's volleyball game in Tyngsboro. Shawsheen netted a 3-0 win. (Credit Image: James Thomas).

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Shawsheen Tech volleyball team made it 10 in a row to open the season last Friday with a 3-0 sweep over Wilmington.

Frankie Reardon had 10 kills to lead the offense, Fiona Rexford added six and Meagan O'Leary had four.

Hope DiDonato contributed 2 blocks.

In the previous match, Shawsheen swept Greater Lowell by scores of 25-14, 25-8 and 25-19.

Reardon set the pace for the Rams with 13 kills and two blocks and was awarded MVP by GLTHS. Rexford and Faith Martin followed up with nine and five kills, respectively.

Izzy DiSalvo 10 digs and DiDonato chipped in with four blocks to hold down the defense.

BOYS SOCCER

The Shawsheen Tech boys soccer team lost 4-2 to Kipp Academy in a game that had a few controversial calls.

Two Shawsheen scoring bids that appeared to cross the goal line were deemed no-goal by game officials while a similar close call was awarded a goal to Kipp.

Scoring for the Rams were junior Davide Vitale and senior Jayden Perez with assists to senior Ollie Ferrer and Vitale on a great cross to Perez.

Shawsheen clobbered Low-ell Catholic by a 6-0 score in its previous match.

Shawsheen had its best offensive day to go along with the shutout.

Senior Ethan Melanson had a goal and two assists and both senior Jack Bourque and Perez added a goal and assist each. Senior Niko Georgoulis had two goals.

Vitale had the other goal, and adding assists were senior Nick Palmerino and sophomore Aidan Boutot. Manning the net for his first shutout of the season was senior Kaleb Molina.

GOLF

The Shawsheen Tech golf team beat Lowell Catholic last Friday by a score of 163-118 at the Four Oaks Country Club.

Low medalist for the round was Max Carpenter shooting even par 36 with 36 points.

Also scoring for the Rams was Joe DaSilva with a 43 and 25 points, Larry Cullity with a 44 and 23 points, Ryan Dodge with a 40 and 28 points, Aidan Fortunato with a 43 and 24 points and Tyler Frediani with a 41 and 27 points.

Shawsheen beat Greater Lowell last week by a score of 181-119 at the Patriot Golf Course.

Low medalist for the round was Cullity shooting even par 35 with 36 points.

Other scorers for the Rams were DaSilva with a 37 and 33 points, Carpenter with a 37 and 33 points, Ryan Dodge with a 39 and 28 points, Dylan Higson with a 41 and 26 points and Tyler Frediani with a 41 and 25 points.

The Rams beat Minuteman Tech recently by a score of 170-131 at the Patriot Golf Course.

Low medalist for the round Max Carpenter shooting a 38 with 31 points.

Also scoring for the Rams was DaSilva with 40 and 27 points, Cullity with a 39 and 30 points, Frediani with a 39 and 28 points, Higson with a 40 and 27 points and Fortunato with a 40 and 27 points.

CROSS COUNTRY

The Shawsheen Tech cross country teams opened the season by sweeping Whittier Tech of Haverhill.

The Ram boys beat Whittier by a 21-40 score while the girls defeated Whittier, 22-33.

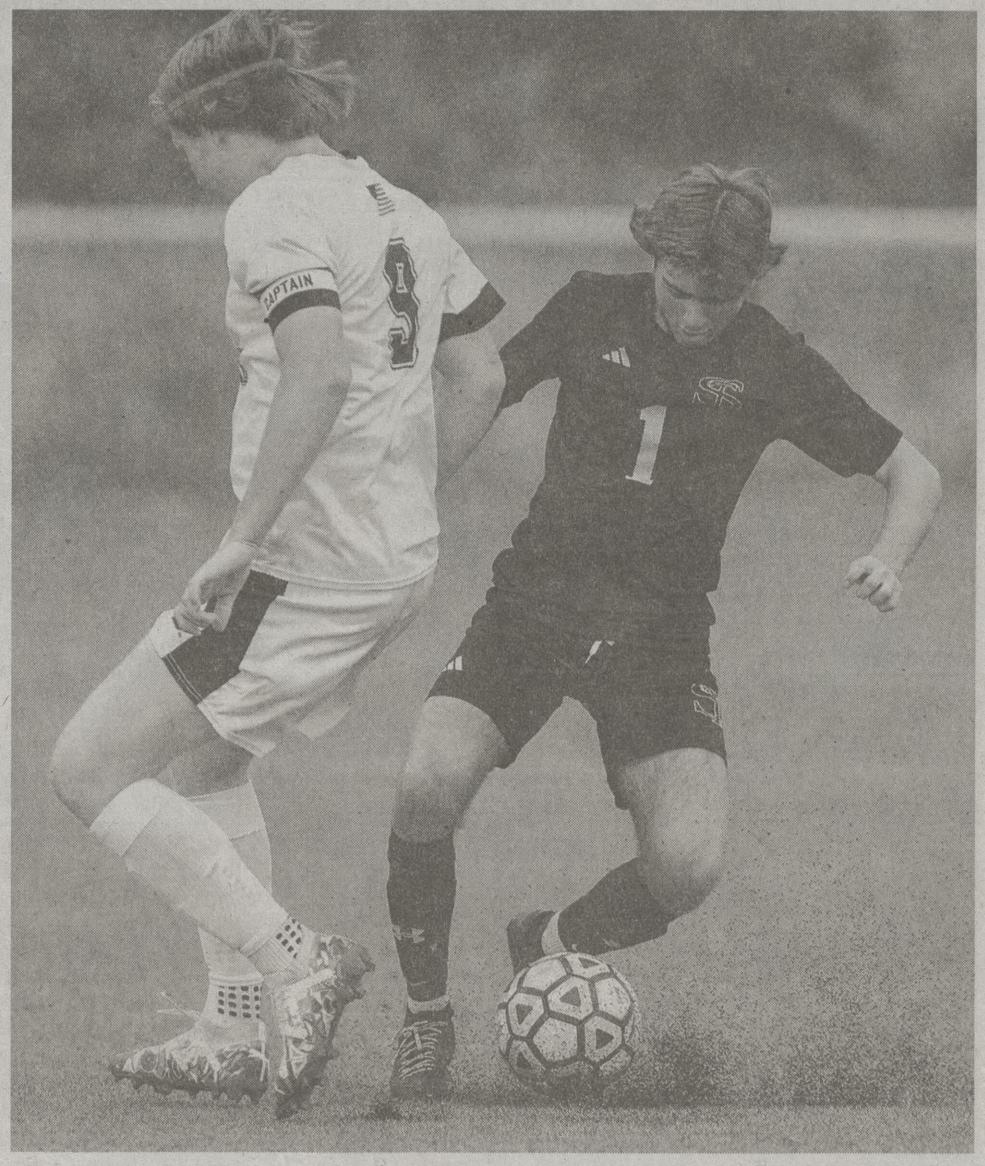
Shawsheen had the winners of both races, Noah Brooks for the boys in 17:28 and Eloise Krochune won the girls event in 25:36.

The Ram boys also had the third, fourth, fifth and eighth-place finishers.

Justin Girouard was third in 20:05, Johathan Hureau was forth in 21:12, Sean Morgan took fifth in 22:18 and Andrew Guerrero placed eighth in 23:54.

For the Shawsheen girls, Alyssa Costantiello was third in 26:46, Corrine Foley took fourth in the 27:28, Ellie Matheson placed fifth in 27:36 and Ella Haynes ended up ninth in 29:41.

▼ Niko Georgoulis (1) of Shawsheen Tech moves the ball past Jackson Fraser of Groton Dunstable during a varsity soccer game Thursday afternoon in Billerica. (Credit Image: James Thomas).



▲ Joe Mytych (17) of Shawsheen Tech battles Groton Dunstable's Keith Githae for possession of the ball during a varsity soccer game Thursday afternoon in Billerica. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

Lifestyle

Many Jack-O'-Lantern events this month

By HEATHER BURNS
News Correspondent

As the calendar changes to October, so does the landscape of our city streets, towns and neighborhoods.

Bright fall leaves begin to turn brown, creepily crunching under each step.

Darkness falls earlier and earlier each night, creating a backdrop of dred for a full harvest moon.

Soon, scary faces will adorn every front porch pumpkin, just waiting to greet trick or treaters on Halloween night.

The gargoyle-like atmosphere created at every front door in the month of October can only be attributed to the iconic Jack-O'-Lantern.

The Jack-O'-Lantern has long been a symbol of Halloween, and annual pumpkin carving is a tradition in many homes across the country.

The making of Jack-O'-Lanterns was brought to the U.S. by Irish immigrants in the early 1800's.

The Irish would hollow out turnips and gourds and carve them with grotesque faces. The addition of a candle turns the mutilated produce into a scary lantern used to ward off evil spirits on Halloween night.

This practice eventually changed from turnips to the larger, easy to carve pumpkin. Soon, this magical pumpkin transformation spread in popularity and became a Halloween tradition.

Today, Jack-O'-Lanterns continue to be a popular symbol of Halloween, and can be found on door steps and in windows of many homes in the days leading up to Oct. 31.

For those who can't get enough of this spooky pumpkin transformation from mild-mannered vegetable to scary creature of the night, you may want to consider visiting one of the many Jack-O'-Lantern displays in the area this Halloween season.

Salem has a long history of haunted happenings. As a result, the Town of Salem celebrates Halloween like no other, offering an impressive display of Jack-O'-Lanterns sure to send a chill up your spine.

This is the 4th season of the Hollowed Harvest Wicked Labyrinth, a display of hundreds of intricately carved Jack-O'-Lanterns.

Newly expanded, this season's Labyrinth event promises not only a large Jack-O'-Lantern display, but also a spooky spider web tunnel, hands on pumpkin carving, and animated Jack-O'-Lanterns that sing songs and tell scary stories.

This year's event is in a location in the heart of Salem at 46 Congress St. Free parking is available on site on a first come, first serve basis.

Hours of operation vary weekly through Oct. 31, and tickets must be purchased in advance.

For ticket information and a calendar of hours, visit *www.hollowedharvest.com*.

Not far from Salem, in nearby Beverly, you will find Halloween on the Hill, located at 572 Essex St., Longhill in Beverly.

Join the Trustees of Reservation on the historic Longhill property for this annual hauntedly fun pumpkin event.

View over 1,000 carved Jack-O'-Lanterns displayed among hundreds of beautiful mums and fall decorations.

Guests can stroll through elaborate Halloween themed sets and lighted displays, enjoy seasonal music, and more.

Halloween on the Hill is open every Wednesday to Sunday from Sept. 27 to Oct. 31 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

A sensory-friendly viewing is offered on Fridays from 4 to 5 p.m.

Tickets must be purchased in advance online at *www.thetrustees.org*.

The spooky face of a Jack-O-Lantern wait to greet trick or treaters on many front door steps during the Halloween season. A visit to one of the many local Jack-O-Lantern festivals could possibly inspire you to create your own pumpkin carving work of art. (Heather Burns photos)

For a more lifelike display of pumpkin artwork, consider a drive to Cape Cod for the Pumpkin People in the Park event.

Located at Kate Gould Park on Main Street in Chatham, this free pumpkin display is hosted by the Chatham Chamber of Commerce in partnership with local merchants.

View dozens of fun and innovative pumpkin displays created by local businesses, organizations, and private citizens.

Each "Pumpkin People" display has a different theme, and displays are meant to engage the public in the many activities Chatham has to offer in the "off" season of fall.

For those who prefer to take a day trip north of Boston, Keene, New Hampshire is celebrating all that is fall at the annual Keene Pumpkin Festival.

This annual event has been celebrated since 1991, and this year's festival will take place on Saturday, Oct. 12, 2024.

The big crowd pleaser of this event is the Jack-O'-Lantern display, which is often considered a record breaking event for the most lit Jack-O'-Lanterns in one display.

Pumpkins are created and donated by members of the community and are placed on display in large towers and pyramids throughout the Main street downtown area of Keene.

The Keene Pumpkin Festival starts at 2 p.m. and ends at 7 p.m. Admission is free to the public.

During this creepy time of year, enjoy the creative and fun art of pumpkin carving at one of the many local Jack-O'-Lantern displays. The hauntingly fun experience of massive pumpkin displays may just inspire you to take your own front door pumpkin display to the next spooky level.

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